The Middlebury Campus

FEBRUARY 16, 2017 | VOL. 115 NO. 14 | MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM

Prof. Returns from Iran, Discusses Experience

By Nick Garber
News Editor

On Jan. 29, a federal court in Boston issued a temporary stay on President Donald J. Trump's executive order barring travel to the United States from seven Muslim-majority countries. For Professor of Religion Ata Anzali and his wife, who were spending his sabbatical in their native Iran, this ruling necessitated an agonizing choice: return immediately to the U.S., abandoning the research projects they had worked on for months, or remain in Iran until June as they had originally planned, with the danger of being denied entry into the U.S. upon their return.

Anzali, his wife, and the elder of his two daughters are all permanent residents of the U.S.; his younger daughter is a U.S. citizen. Unwilling to risk having their family separated, the Anzalis ultimately decided, in consultation with attorneys and College administrators, to return to the U.S., and arrived safely in Boston on Feb. 3. This week, Anzali spoke to Nick Garber, a News Editor for the *Campus*, about his trip back to Vermont, the impact of Trump's order in his home country and the type of activism he hopes to see from the Middlebury community.

Nick Garber (NG): What role has the College played in this process?

Ata Anzali (AA): I was in constant conversation with President Patton and the senior administration, including Andi Lloyd, the dean of the faculty. They were really helpful and very proactive, and I'm grateful for the help that I received. Eventually, they strongly urged me to come back as soon as possible, and even though that was a really difficult decision for me to make, I decided that was the best course of action we could take.

I feel fortunate. My case was probably one of the easier ones. I had support, I was a permanent resident, I had a full-time job here at a good institution. But there were all these visa holders and refugees who didn't know anyone here; sometimes it was their first time coming here. So it's terrible to think about what they've been going through. In many cases like that, you don't even know what resources you have. When we entered Boston, after we passed [Customs and Border Protection] and went out to the terminal, so many people

SEE PROFESSOR, PAGE 2

HAMZA KIYANI

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) organized a protest against the Trump Administration's travel ban (top). MSA Co-Presidents Mehek Naqvi '19 and Garda Ramadhito '19 address the crowd (bottom).

MUSLIM STUDENTS PROTEST TRAVEL BAN

By Sarah Asch
Features Editor

Hundreds of students, faculty, staff and community members gathered in the snow outside McCullough Student Center on Feb. 2 to participate in the Rally for Refugees. The rally, organized by the Muslim Student Association (MSA), aimed to protest President Donald J. Trump's executive order banning immigrants and travelers from seven Muslim-majority countries. Mehek Naqvi '19 co-president of the MSA, helped to plan the rally.

"The goal of the rally was to raise awareness of the travel ban on campus. It was also meant to serve as a safe space for those students who were personally affected by the travel ban, either directly or indirectly," Naqvi said. "During times of distress and uncertainty it can oftentimes become difficult to take action, ironically it is during such times that it becomes absolutely necessary to do so. The rally provided an outlet for students at Middlebury to stand in solidarity with one another, and to show the Muslim students on this campus that they were not alone in their fight against discrimination and injustice."

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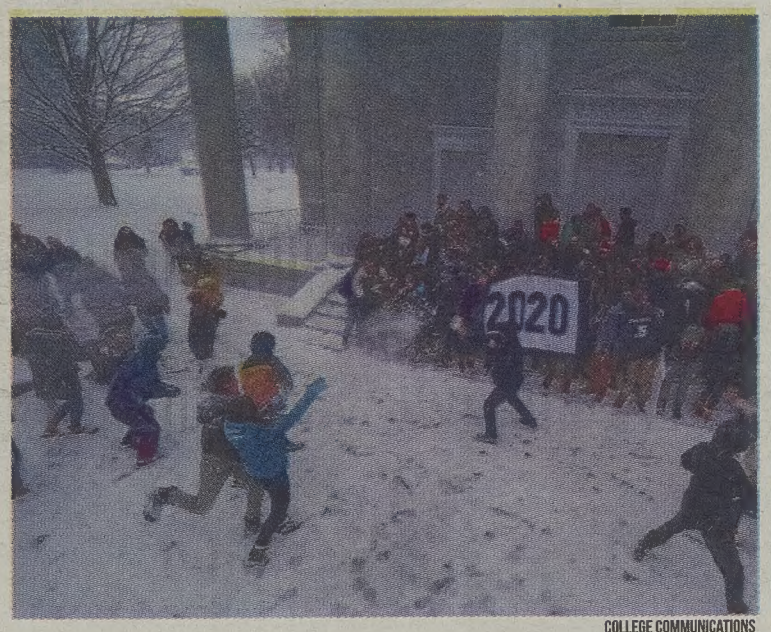
CLASS OF 2020.5 JOINS MIDDLEBURY



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Class of 2020.5 students celebrate their arrival on campus with a photo and impromptu snowball fight in front of Mead Chapel.

Toy Talks SGA Relations with Student Orgs, Administration

By Will DiGravio
News Editor

The Middlebury Campus
SPECIAL FEATURE

News Editor Will DiGravio sat down with Karina Toy '17 to discuss the first half of her term as president of the Student Government Association (SGA). Here, Toy shares what the SGA has accomplished this year and her plans for the remainder of her presidency. This is part two of a two-part interview.

Will DiGravio (WD): Throughout the fall semester, the SGA worked alongside the Black Student Union (BSU) to pass a series of "[MiddSpeaks] Resolutions." Among these resolutions were calling for the administration to hang a banner or flag in support of Black Lives Matter, endorsing the Black Lives Matter movement and calling for the administration to do the same, calling for the creation of a "zone for free expression" on campus, among other initiatives. Could you talk about how these initiatives were passed, and what they will look like going forward? And could you also comment on SGA's working relationship with BSU and other cultural organizations on campus?

Karina Toy (KT): I did not sponsor or write either of those bills. It was [Former Community Council Co-Chair David Pesqueira], so I can't necessarily comment on that part too much. [Regarding the] MiddSpeaks zone of free expression, there were people who definitely didn't feel like a flagpole on campus would be a good idea. And there were a lot of concerns about [a wall for free expression] being a place where profane or really offensive things could be written. After we brought [the resolution] to Community Council, they had intense objections to having either of those things, the flagpole especially. Currently, especially since David is no longer here and it's kind of now on me, I'm leaning towards not doing a flag pole. If we put up anything that's going to cause that much of a reaction it doesn't seem right. But I'm working with a group of senators to talk about alternatives. It could be a wall of banners — using the area where the Black Lives Matter flag was hung — to allow student orgs to hang things or making it more of a zone for free expression instead of a physical thing. It also ties into the idea of students taking over more of the McCullough space.

Transitioning into the Black Lives Matter bill, that original bill did ask for a flag pole. Per the administration, that wasn't going to happen, but they were very willing to hang a Black Lives Matter flag until the end of fall which is what the bill asked for. [Discussions about the bill] took a long time, but they were good. Deliberation needed to happen as we saw with the Fox News [coverage], this got response from the community. And it passed unanimously. Once we got the language down right and once we figured out exactly what BSU wanted to see, it passed fairly easily, it just took a lot of conversation.

I haven't really had a relationship with [cultural organizations] directly, as in me sitting down with them. Again, [these bills]

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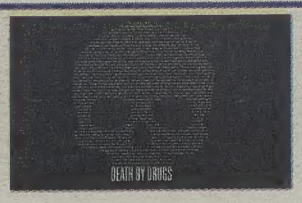
INSIDE



VT OPIOID DEATHS CONTINUE TO RISE IN 2016 PAGE 4

WHEN THE SNOW BOWL LACKS SNOW PAGE 10

"CITY OF ANGELS" TRANSPORTS AUDIENCE TO 1940s PAGE 17

COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By John Gosselin
Staff Writer &
Community Council Correspondent

At the Feb. 14 meeting, Student Co-Chair Travis Sanderson '19 began by having council members revise a recommendation to form a committee for the review of the Enhanced Residential Plan of 1998, which established the commons system. This committee would draft a new Enhance Residential Plan to be completed by the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. Community Council plans to vote on this recommendation at their Feb. 21 meeting.

Charles Rainey '19 suggested that the council include details about the make-up of the committee to strengthen the recommendation. If adopted, the committee will consist of students, faculty and staff. The recommendation does not currently include an exact number of members. Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Douglas Adams suggested that the Student Co-Chair appoint the co-chairs for the committee, which was adopted into the recommendation.

Another draft recommendation, related to the first, would suggest that faculty orientation and yearly faculty training include at least one hour of focus on the resources available through the commons system. This recommendation did not receive major revisions.

After discussion of the recommendations had concluded, Co-Chair Sanderson moved to discuss issues that were brought up at the beginning of the year, namely diversity and inclusivity. He stressed that this topic has many complex aspects and that the most productive way to move forward would be to find specific issues for which Community Council could create concrete recommendations. Some of the suggestions included recommending that the Alliance for an Inclusive Middlebury publish a full faculty profile in addition to a student profile, including exercise equipment in residential housing, and including cultural competency training for faculty and staff.

At the Jan. 31 Community Council meeting, members discussed the commons system and potential improvements. Co-Chair Sanderson '19 conducted a poll concerning the commons and shared several results, including that many students found the commons helpful in their first year but that they found it socially restricting afterwards and that 60 percent of respondents said the commons made them feel welcome.

The discussion started with descriptions about what the commons do currently. Several commons administrators came to the meeting to share their thoughts, including Debbie Cousino, who shared that Atwater commons regularly hosts dinners which engage students, faculty and the local community. Several of the faculty members present at the meeting either did not know about the dinners, or were unsure whether they could come to the dinner, as they thought they were associated with other commons.

From this realization came the draft recommendation about informing faculty members about the opportunities to interact with the community within the commons system. As the meeting progressed, it became clear that council members saw flaws in the commons system and that they should look into forming a committee.

Professor Affected by Travel Ban Discusses Trump, Community Outreach

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COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Professor Ata Anzali safely returned to the United States from Iran on Feb. 3.

greeted us right there; there were volunteers and lawyers and stuff on standby. But I knew they were there. If you're a refugee in a camp in Sudan or Somalia, how do you know there are people who are willing to help you, who you can just call?

NG: Before you left Iran, what kinds of opinions did you encounter towards Trump and the U.S.? Do people consider Trump to be representative of the U.S. as a whole?

AA: Before Trump was elected president, the situation was not much different from here [in the U.S.], in terms of people, by and large, saying, "This is not gonna happen. There's no way this guy could be the president." And then this happened. he response was really interesting because of the people that I talked to, overwhelmingly, their first response was, "Oh, this guy is exactly like our past President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad." The same kind of bombastic style, being more concerned with what you think rather than what is appropriate process. It was interesting to hear people saying, "Well we had eight years of that disaster and now it's America's turn." But the problem of that is that Ahmadinejad was the president of a country with significant regional influence but not global influence. Now you have a guy who has tremendous influence on world affairs.

The other part was that people I've seen do realize that the [American] political system and its people are different. But at the same time, the far right in Iran is taking tremendous advantage of the situation in America. For example, the Supreme Leader, in his latest meeting with some people, said, "I thank this guy who is now the President of the United States because he has revealed the true face of America." This is what he wanted, he's basically dancing all over the place. So that's really disturbing to see how politicians on both sides benefit from more tension and more conflict. Whether it's the far right in Iran or the far right here, they're happy.

NG: What do you think is important for Middlebury students to understand about the ban and the people that it's affecting?

AA: I think it's a collective responsibility. It's not just students; it's us, faculty, everyone in this community. There is no way around the fact that the ban was a thinly disguised plan of religious discrimination. Trump made it clear during the campaign what he wanted to do, and this was probably the least legally troublesome way of doing it: to start with seven countries and then see what happens. So I'm really worried about how the Islamophobic discourse has suddenly jumped to this central, politically powerful place. When I taught my intro to Islam courses, I talked about these people with my students. But these were marginal people, who now have a strong influence in the White House.

The bottom line is that this is about Islam in America. It's not about Iran, it's not about any of those issues. It's about Islam and its relationship to America. I do teach courses on Islam and I have a course on Islam in America, but I feel that I haven't been doing what I could to reach out to the wider community. For every single one of us, we have to think about how we get out of the bubble that is Middlebury. I'm not saying that everyone in Middlebury thinks the same way or that everybody is enlightened, but I think there's a huge gap, when you think about [the fact that] almost half of the people that voted in that election voted for Trump, and according to polls they support this ban. I don't think those numbers are that big at the College, but then in the larger community, it would probably be [closer to the national rate]. So I think both for students and [faculty], we have to come together to think about how we can reach out to the community, how can we find ways to make connections to Muslim-Americans, and seek ways to coordinate our efforts with them. To educate the larger population that sharia law is not a threat to America, or that Islam is not a political ideology.

In my classes for next year, I'm thinking about how to create a syllabus that is more reflective of the wider conversations about Islam in this country, rather than some elitist snobbish subjects that I or my students might like. For instance, I like to teach about Sufism and Islamic mysticism, since that's where my expertise is. But given the level of discourse in society, and the questions about jihad, about sharia, about violence, about treatment of women in Islam — I think I have to tackle them, and those discussions have to be part of the events that we do in the College. At the same time, we have to make these borders a little more porous. Community members don't typically attend college events. How can we make connections to be able to have more impact, not just on students and our peers but also on the community? That's something I don't have a good answer for, but we have to think about that together.

NG: So you're envisioning a two-part outreach to the Muslim-American community as well as to some more prejudiced groups?

AA: Yeah. Honestly, I think that many of the students I know, even those who are opposed to this ban, don't have a Muslim friend. So I think we need to be more conscious about making those connections. There are, I think, questions deep down that we wonder about, but we don't ask because we're afraid of being accused of bias. I think there is some sort of political correctness, even among students who would identify as progressive.

So on the one hand, we need to make connections to people who are affected; to minorities, especially Muslim-Americans. And at the same time, if you need to engage the community to correct prejudices, to show them that Islam is not a threat — I don't think you could do that effectively if you don't have a Muslim friend. Those human connections make a lot of difference. If you have a Muslim friend then you can invite him or her to a meeting where there are some other opinions. And then when they see a real person in front of them, it makes a lot of difference. They can't just say in abstract, "This is a threat." They have to talk about this person.

NG: Sometimes, especially in the discussions of race that take place on campus, there's a notion that members of a marginalized group should never be responsible for educating others — that that should be a job for people who aren't being victimized. Do you have thoughts on that? If the idea is that Muslim members of the community should go out to these prejudiced people and educate them, I imagine there could be some pushback.

AA: What I meant wasn't just for the Muslim students to go out and educate. We have a collective responsibility. But as someone who lives in this community, because I know about these issues, I do think that I have a responsibility to reach out and say, "If you want me to be part of a conversation, I'm here." I'm not confined to my college classes. I can actually spend some time in a church community and have a conversation with you guys.

So I do think that, of course, the onus is mostly on the people who are not the minority. But I don't think just sitting passively as a minority and saying, "Well, people are gonna come and reach out to us" — I don't think that's a constructive approach. Muslim-Americans need to be more proactive about showing their humanity. "We're human, we don't think about subverting American institutions every day."

Your question reminded me of this conversation we had in my first-year seminar. There was this JusTalks series, an evening meeting once a week that my students attended. The discussions were about race and ethnicity and all the students were white. I think that the students understand that maybe that's okay, but those conversations need to happen with real people. You can't just have an abstract conversation about race, about religious discrimination. So that's what I meant: that all students need to be more proactive about making more connections. There has to be more willingness on both sides to work with each other and reach out to the wider community.

Winter Carnival 2017

Thursday Feb. 16

- 8:00-9:30 PM Bonfire and fireworks @ Ross Lawn
- 9:00-11 PM FIASCO! Student bar @ Crossroads, 21+
- 9:45-10:45 Bobolinks and Mamajamas concert @ Crossroads

Friday Feb. 17

- Alpine ski races @ Snow Bowl
- Nordic ski races @ Rikert Nordic Center
- 12-2 PM Northern Lights @ Kenyon Arena
- 6 PM Free Friday Film SPACE JAM @ Dana Auditorium
- 9-10 PM Otter Nonsense and Middlebrow comedy shows @ Wilson Hall

Saturday Feb. 18

- Alpine ski races @ Snow Bowl
- Nordic ski races @ Rikert Nordic Center
- 4:00-5:30 PM Ice Show @ Kenyon Arena
- 9:30 PM - 1:30 AM Winter Ball @ Nelson Field House

College Offers Tenure to Four Faculty Members

By Kate Criscitiello
Staff Writer

The College announced on Feb. 1 that it had granted tenure to four professors: Maggie Clinton of the History Department, Louisa Stein of Film and Media Culture, Shawna Shapiro of the Writing and Linguistics Programs and Jeffrey Howarth of Geography.

In an email, Clinton told the *Campus* that she is excited for the academic flexibility that tenure will provide her.

"It's hard to be an excellent teacher when you're worried about finishing research that might help you land a more secure position at another school, or to experiment with new teaching methods when you're not certain that your institution entirely has your back," she said. "Tenure means that you can be fully invested in your students, your institution and the surrounding community without worrying that you'll soon have to find work elsewhere."

With this in mind, Clinton is working on a new book project regarding "political and environmental aspects of petroleum marketing and prospecting in China from the 19th century onwards."

Like Clinton, Stein is excited for the freedom of research made possible by this promotion.

"It does free me to take on more unconventional projects," she said. "Right now, I'm working with a couple of friends/fellow scholars on a book project about the cultural significance of the social network Tumblr. It's going to be a multi-vocal collection comprised of many short pieces, bringing together academics and non-academic Tumblr users; certainly it's a less traditional format and approach than my previous collections."

Stein added that her promotion suggests that her areas of scholarship —"girl culture, fan culture and remix culture"—are being taken seriously by academics.

Shapiro, the first tenured faculty member in the Writing Program, feels that tenure will grant her a greater voice.

"I feel that having tenure allows me to speak out more openly and honestly about concerns I might have about our institution, as well as about issues in the local community (I live in Burlington)," she said. "I would like to help advocate for increased attention to issues of equity on our campus, and to encourage all of us to think deeply about the privileges we have being at Middlebury and how we might use our privilege to make positive change in the world."

With this promotion, Shapiro hopes to broaden her audience beyond academia.

"I would like to reflect on what I have learned when taking my research out of the ivory tower and into the community, and possibly to write with— not just about— people in our community," she said.

Howarth, who could not be reached for comment, currently holds a National Science Foundation grant devoted to improving STEM education, and is a 2014 recipient of the College's Gladstone Award Honoring Excellence in teaching. In the College's press release, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Andi Lloyd described Howarth as a professor who "gives deep thought to the question of what to teach and how to teach it."

COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Newly tenured faculty (L-R): Jeffrey Howarth, Louisa Stein, Maggie Clinton and Shawna Shapiro.

New IP Policy and Committee Unveiled

By Nick Garber
News Editor

College Provost Susan Baldridge announced in an all-College email on Jan. 23 that in September, the Board of Trustees had unanimously approved an Intellectual Property (IP) policy that will address the legal ownership of all academic and creative work produced by members of the Middlebury community. In addition, Baldridge announced the formation of an ongoing IP committee that will be charged with regularly evaluating the policy, receiving feedback and proposing revisions.

"Prior to September, Middlebury did not have an intellectual property policy, which was a problem," Baldridge said in an email to the *Campus*. "A policy was needed in order to clarify the legal rights and responsibilities of those in our community doing intellectual, creative and innovative work."

Baldridge expects the new policy to help sustain the work of students, faculty and staff, stressing that the policy "assigns rights to the institution only in cases where there is a significant investment of institutional resources or where the institutional identity is clearly implicated." Baldridge also noted that the policy treats the work of these three groups equally, which she finds "consistent with Middlebury's innovative spirit."

Another of the policy's strengths, according to Associate Provost for Digital Learning Amy Collier, is that it "approaches Intellectual Property in a conversational way, rather than as a prescriptive legal document." This approach, she said, arises from Middlebury's cultural emphasis on "the merits of negotiation and good faith judgement by IP creators."

Collier will serve as chair of the IP committee, which will be composed of faculty and staff from various segments of the institution. In that role, Collier said, "I encourage conversations about IP scenarios among the Committee members and include them on any inquiries and communications we receive from members of the Middlebury community."

Overall, Baldridge said, the policy will have few noticeable effects, "since ownership of the vast majority of creative work will remain with the creator by default." That said, the College "will be highlighting the new policy for those seeking significant funding from Middlebury, and will reach out to individuals when we believe questions about IP might be relevant to work they are doing."

The full IP policy and committee membership can be viewed at go/ippolicy.

TOY DISCUSSES SGA'S ROLE IN STUDENT ACTIVISM ON CAMPUS

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came from David and [SGA senators who] sat down with BSU directly. Besides members of the Institutional Diversity Committee (IDC), I haven't really met with any cultural orgs one-on-one, which is different than last year. I think last year [meetings were] prompted by problems. So maybe it is a good sign I haven't met with them because maybe there are no issues. I haven't heard anything. [IDC Co-Chairs Geovany Martinez and Brianna Arroyo] are great and I made sure to choose people who are very involved in the cultural org community so if they had an issue I think they would come to me. Anyone is welcome to come talk to me whenever they want, but there's also 25 members of cabinet and 17 members of senate. They could talk to them too. And everyone's involved with stuff. Now that you ask me, I don't think that I've ever met with any student org, since the beginning of fall, one-on-one because of an issue they had, or even a non-issue.

> ***"I understand why people think we're becoming more of an activist organization. I disagree. The way I see it, we serve as a voice of the students..."***
>
> KARINA TOY
> SGA PRESIDENT

WD: What is your response to those who have been critical of the SGA for becoming, some have said, more activist-oriented? And what is the SGA doing to make sure that those who hold minority opinions are heard?

KT: I understand why people think we're becoming more of an activist organization. I disagree. The way I see it, we serve as a voice of the students, and in my role as president, and from what I've seen since becoming president and even before that, the administration does respect SGA. In political science, you talk about the vocal minority, and sometimes the whole majority can be left out because these 10 million people are very passionate about one thing. The Administration refers to us to make sure that is not happening. [Though they] do know a lot about students — I think sometimes people don't realize that administrators have Facebook too — but, at the same time they don't because they're not in the dorms, the dining halls or around us constantly. The idea of SGA is to have a diverse group of people that touches as many parts of the student body as possible, and can represent those opinions if and when they hear them. That being said, you're never going to get everyone to agree, and you're always going to have people who disagree and who have opinions that aren't shared by anybody. I definitely see the concern, but the fact that you came to me with that question means that their voices were heard in a slight way. And everyone in this country, luckily, is free to disagree and free to express their own opinion. We're only 17 people, so there's only so much we can do. You can always run for [an SGA position] if you feel like you're not being heard.

WD: What have you found, institutionally speaking, doesn't work about the SGA? Not necessarily the people or the relationships but year to year, what doesn't work?

KT: Representing voices that aren't being heard is definitely one issue that always comes up.We do not traditionally get many varsity athletes [running for SGA positions] because they practice a lot, and SGA [can be] a big time commitment. We have a couple this year, which is great, but we usually don't have many varsity athletes, which I think is a downside, and shows the divide. The fact that they don't get as much representation as they should, proportionally, is a downside. There's no way to get around it, but that's one issue that has always bothered me.

There are always communication issues – I've really tried to go above and beyond and make sure everyone understands, if they read their emails, what's going on with senate, what's going on in the SGA Cabinet, since that's been an issue in the past with some presidents.

Also, just making sure that the cabinet stays active and productive because that's also been an issue where things just kind of fall through the cracks and nothing ever gets done. It's a lot of work, you've got to be on top of it.

WD: What is your relationship like with the administration and in particular President Patton?

KT: Good. Literally no complaints. President Patton is very busy this year because she has been traveling, so I usually get to meet with her once a month one on one. We have a good relationship. She will respond to SGA emails sometimes, which is really cute. She'll be like, "Go SGA!" which I like. I know most people in Old Chapel now and I'm fine emailing them off the cuff, it's a good relationship. I think they appreciate the work I do and I appreciate the work they do. We're chill. Efforts to [enhance] communication between SGA and administration have gone very well. I think for every single bill that we've passed, the administration has known about it. They might not have agreed with all of it, but they knew about it, which has helped a lot. If I give them the heads up and ask if they have any major concerns, and every once in awhile one of those concerns is something we haven't thought about, so that's always really useful to have before we vote on something.

COMMUNITY BIAS RESPONSE TEAM INCIDENT REPORT

In an article in The Campus *from the fall semester, the Community Bias Response Team introduced itself to the Middlebury Community and shared its charge to communicate appropriate and comprehensive responses to bias incidents and acts of intolerance involving students. As part of this charge, we will publish on a regular basis, here in* The Campus, *a log of reported incidents and actions taken (if any).*

On Sunday night (1/22/17) a public safety officer observed a swastika and a racial slur (n-word) scrawled in the dirt on the back window of a visitor's parked car. Upon investigation, the Department of Public Safety was not able to determine if the incident occurred while the vehicle was parked on campus. DPS reported the incident to the Middlebury Police, who wish to be informed of any potential hate crimes in the area. The window was wiped clean by the owner and the incident was reported to the Community Bias Response Team.

This type of action violates our community standards. If anyone has information about this incident, please contact Public Safety (802-443-5133).

Opioid Deaths Still on the Rise in 2016

By Rebecca Walker
Local News Editor

Opiate abuse has proven to be a continuing problem in Vermont, with recent research counting a record of about 100 opiate-related deaths in the state in 2016. This is an alarming increase from the 75 Vermont deaths in 2015. Health officials have expressed concern that the death toll is continuing to rise despite the state's efforts to increase prevention, treatment, regulation and law enforcement.

The opiate crisis in Vermont has been ongoing, but came to the forefront of state politics in 2014 when the governor at the time, Peter Shumlin (D), focused his State of the State address heavily on the nationwide crisis that so gravely affects Vermont. Now, three years later, current Governor Phil Scott (R) holds the persistent opiate problem in his own hands.

Mark Davis, a staff writer for *Seven Days Vermont*, tallied the number of deaths at 100 after he gained access to death certificates of all fatal drug overdoses in 2016 from the Vermont Department of Health. After reaching this count, Davis sought to contact the family members of each of the 100 victims to gain anecdotal evidence and individual background regarding the opiate crisis in the state.

The Vermont Dept. of Health has yet to release an official number of deaths for 2016, but is expected to release a finalized number in the coming weeks. However, Vermont Dept. of Health Deputy Commissioner Barbara Cimaglio revealed to VPR that its number certainly would not be any lower than Davis's calculation, as they have reached a preliminary number of 105 deaths.

The Health Department faces difficulties in tallying numbers of opiate-related deaths since victims often have many drugs in their bodies when they die or because opioid abuse precipitated another form of death, thus making the identification of a single opioid difficult.

Both Davis and Cimaglio were interviewed in a special VPR broadcast that aired last Wednesday, Feb. 8, discussing the opiate crisis.

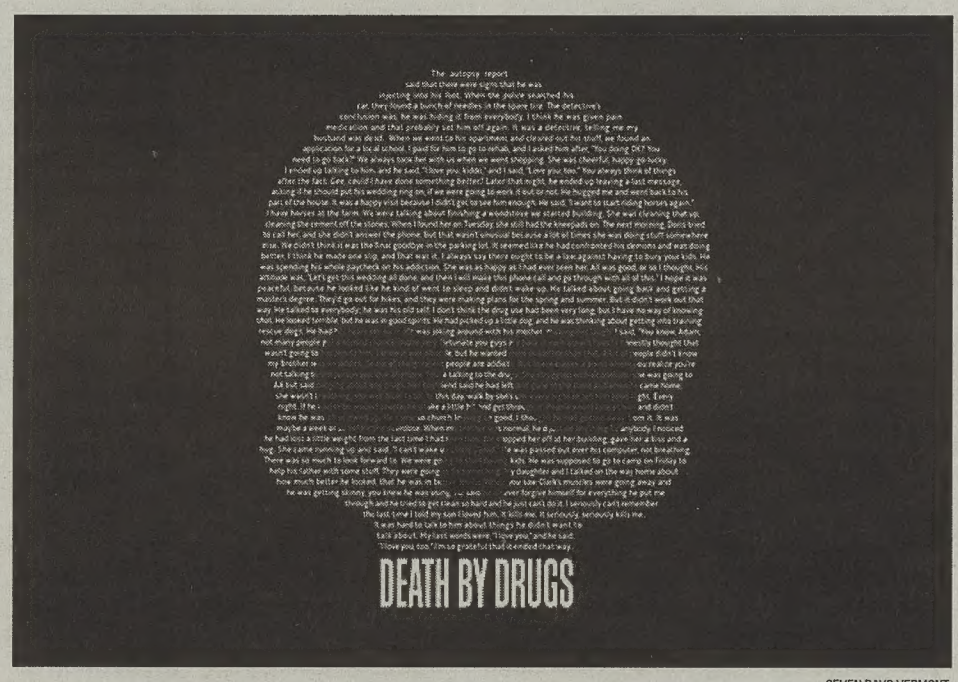
Health officials such as Cimaglio have acknowledged that this number would have been notably higher without Narcan. Naloxone, sold under the brand name Narcan, is a life-saving drug that can reverse the effects of opiate overdose. It has become increasingly available in the state over the past year. According to *Seven Days*, the drug has been used about 241 times in Vermont over the past year to decrease the number of opiate-related deaths.

> ***"This battle continues to be one of the greatest challenges of our time. How we react, how we choose to respond to it will be remembered long after our services have ended."***
>
> **PHIL SCOTT (R)**
> **GOVERNOR OF VERMONT**

The overdose victims who were not lucky enough to be saved by Narcan represented a more diverse demographic than is often assumed, according to Davis. Women made up 30 percent of the fatal overdoses. He also emphasized that white-collar and blue-collar professionals alike are affected by this crisis. However, many of the victims had one feature in common.

"A startling number of opiate victims died just after they had gotten clean—and when their families believed that the worst was over," Davis wrote in *Seven Days*.

After hearing the emotional stories of the victims' family members, Davis expressed pessimism regarding solutions to the problem. He noted that major changes are necessary.



SEVEN DAYS VERMONT

In 2016, there have been approximately 100 opiate-related deaths in Vermont.

"In a lot of ways I think that our approach still is very traditional. And while the rhetoric may be more progressive, I don't know if we're seeing that on the ground," he said.

Cimaglio provided some insight to VPR into how the state and the Health Department are working to fight this seemingly endless battle. Some of these solutions include increasing public awareness and improving identification of individuals who need help through tools such as screening tests. Cimaglio also highlighted the 12 community centers open to the public around the state in addition to a new hub planned to open in Saint Albans in the spring. Additionally, she emphasized the foundational roots of many opiate addiction problems.

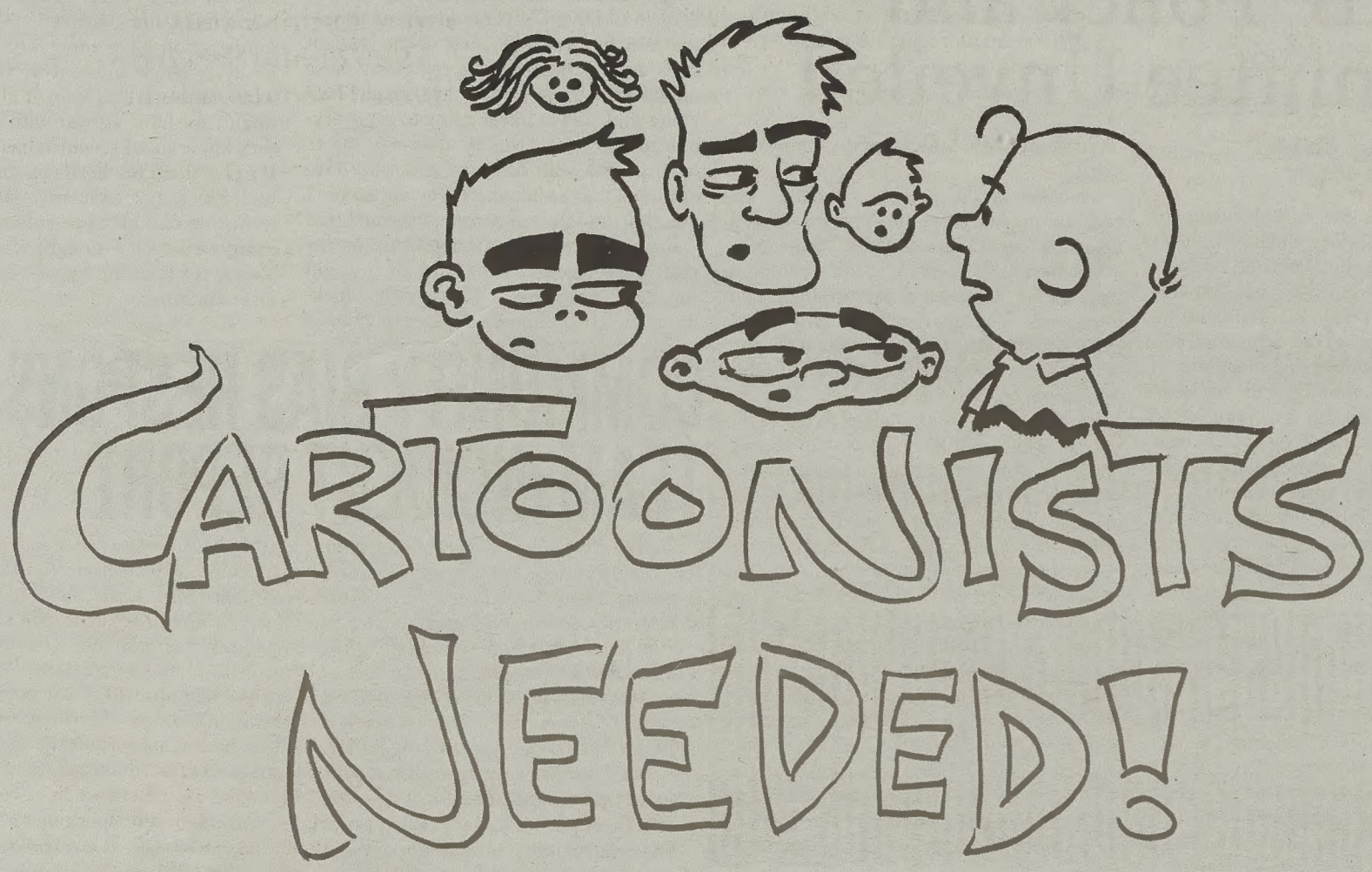
"We have to look at our culture and we have to look at how we're raising our children, which is a tremendously complicated topic," Cimaglio advised.

Although it is not an easy task, the state is taking steps to change the culture of parenting. One prevention campaign in progress works to help parents talk to their children. Another campaign Cimaglio mentioned in the broadcast is called "The Most Dangerous Leftovers," which encourages safe disposal of needles.

Another persistent discussion around opiate abuse is the problem of prescription drugs and the way that society has been taught to deal with pain. Cimaglio shared that the legislature has been searching for alternative pain treatments, such as acupuncture. At large, there has been a push for doctors and patients alike to be aware of the strength of pain medications commonly prescribed and cautious about their use in efforts to prevent serious addiction problems.

Opiate-related deaths are sweeping the entire nation, and constituents of the state of Vermont are aware that they must work towards solutions.

"This battle continues to be one of the great challenges of our time," said Gov. Scott during his inauguration speech. "How we react, how we choose to respond to it will be remembered long after our services have ended."



Vt. Gov. Scott (R) Decides to Move Ahead with All-Payer Health Care

By Paul Donelon
Contributing Writer

Last Wednesday, Feb. 8, the newly-elected Vermont Governor Phil Scott (R) approved his Democratic predecessor's all-payer healthcare plan. Gov. Scott announced that the State of Vermont had established a contract with the corporation OneCare Vermont to have its branches of healthcare providers give care to the 30,000 Vermonters on Medicaid.

The two years of negotiations that resulted in this new plan began with the then-governor Peter Shumlin (D) and led to current Gov. Scott's approval of the deal this past week. The plan's main goal is to substantially overhaul the state's healthcare system to become a more comprehensive, corporate-backed healthcare management organization.

Earlier in 2014, former Gov. Shumlin had banked heavily on the passage of what would have been our nation's first state-run single-payer healthcare plan. The plan was lauded by Democrats and progressives in Vermont and nationwide, but highly criticized by business leaders and Republicans for its cost.

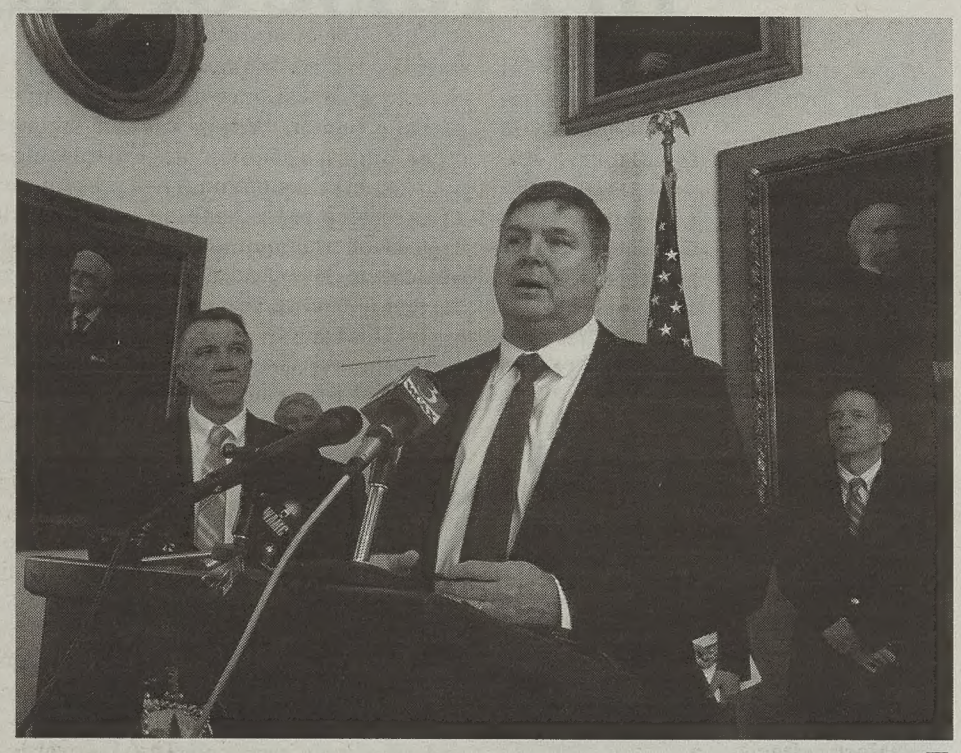
Gov. Shumlin's single-payer healthcare plan failed to become law, mainly because the state's projected costs to launch and run the plan had ballooned from an estimated $1.8 billion to $2.6 billion. Because of the bill's failure to pass and the incentives created by the Affordable Care Act, Shumlin decided to venture into a new healthcare plan.

Under Gov. Shumlin's direction, the state health regulators' group, Green Mountain Health Care, then began an attempt to combine all the healthcare organizations in the state to tighten spending and cut state healthcare costs. Combining all hospitals, independent doctors, clinics and health centers would create a monopoly, or an all-payer healthcare system. This way, the state of Vermont would be able to negotiate with a main block, instead of dealing with the many different billing systems of hospitals and doctors.

This monopoly would deal with all the billings and regulatory dealings, and would also regulate and measure each individual hospital and doctor's quality metrics. By reviewing each doctor and hospital, the state could attempt to oversee low costs and measure individual aspects of each healthcare provider through the OneCare Corporation.

These negotiations led to the system that Gov. Scott has now approved. At this moment, doctors and hospitals submit itemized statements and bills to the Department of Vermont Health to get paid for treating patients. Under the new healthcare system in Vermont, the state pays the OneCare Corporation up front every month, and OneCare distributes the money to the healthcare providers to cover costs of care, cutting out the Health Department's role in direct billing.

To ensure that money is not overspent, the contract specifies that if OneCare spends more than $93 million in patient care, OneCare would pay the extra difference, rather than the state of Vermont. On the other hand, if OneCare spends less than $93 million dollars in care, the company and the state will split the difference.



VPR

Secretary of the Agency of Human Services Al Gobeille, center, announces the continuation of the all-payer healthcare plan with Gov. Phil Scott (R) on the left.

The debate over state healthcare in Vermont mirrors the national debate around the Affordable Care Act. The Chief Executive Officer of OneCare, Todd Moore, echoed former President Barack Obama in a statement explaining that patients who are now supervised by OneCare will be able to keep their doctor if they so choose.

The program will run on a one-year trial pilot program before it is extended.

Gov. Scott said in a statement that the pilot program would be "somewhat of a practice or test session of sorts ... and will allow us to be transparent" about OneCare and its management of state funds.

Vt. Gas Takes Financial Hit, Pipeline Protests Continue

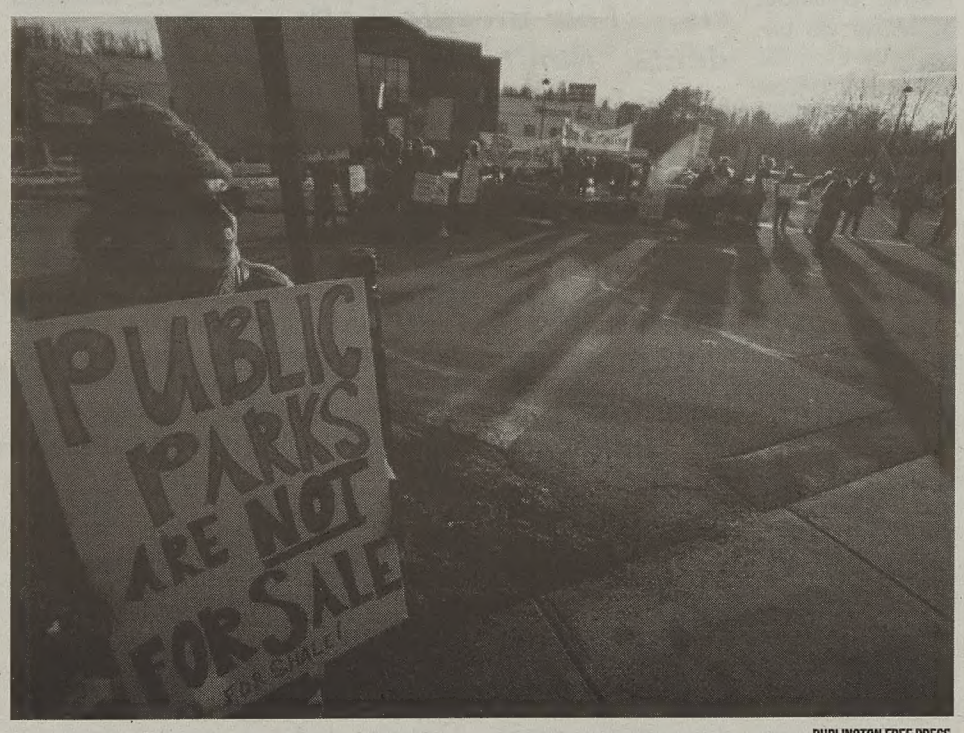
By Jules Morales
Contributing Writer

Since its proposal in 2012, Vermont Gas Systems' ongoing pipeline project has drawn criticism from concerned Vermonters and environmental activists alike. This new 41-mile pipeline is an extension of an already existing natural gas pipeline between Canada and Chittenden County. Vermont Gas states that the new pipeline will carry natural gas through both Chittenden and Addison Counties until it reaches Ticonderoga, NY.

Over four years later, many of the pipeline's opponents have persistent concerns. On Wednesday, Feb. 8, over 30 protesters stood outside of the Vermont Gas headquarters in South Burlington. The protesters called on the company to halt construction while the Vermont Supreme Court hears a case regarding a land rights issue and federal authorities from The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) investigate "reported concerns regarding the safety and integrity of the Vermont Gas System Addison Natural Gas Project."

The Vermont Supreme Court case stems from an eminent domain issue taking place in Hinesburg — a small town located 12 miles south of Burlington. In February 2016, residents were surprised by reports that revealed that Vermont Gas had started work on the pipeline near the town's northern border.

By Feb. 15, residents learned that they had only 48 hours to file a motion to intervene in Vermont Gas' eminent domain request through Geprags Community Park. While residents were successful in persuading the Public Service Board to grant an extension on filing a motion, the board granted Vermont Gas access to build the pipeline under Geprags Park in Sept. 2016.



BURLINGTON FREE PRESS

Residents of Hinesburg continue to protest the Vt. Gas pipeline in their community.

"It would have been naïve to think that the PSB would rule in our favor. Throughout the history of this project, the board has consistently given VGS whatever they want," said Hinesburg resident Rachel Smolker following the decision.

> ***"It would have been naïve to think that the PSB [Public Service Board] would rule in our favor. Throughout the history of this project, the board has consistently given VGS [Vermont Gas Systems] whatever they want."***
>
> RACHEL SMOLKER
> RESIDENT OF HINESBURG

Since then, residents of Hinesburg have created a movement against Vermont Gas Systems' ongoing pipeline project that has drawn support throughout Vermont and neighboring states.

The fears of pipeline opponents extend beyond the issue of eminent domain. *VT Digger* reported that Vermont Gas issued a statement earlier this month acknowledging that they "did not prudently plan and manage" the early stages of the pipeline extension projection.

The Public Service Board resolved to penalize Vermont Gas by imposing a cap on the company's income until 2019.

"Vermont Gas may earn no more than an 8.5 percent return on its capital assets through 2019...[as] the appropriate financial penalty for the impact of VGS' imprudence," according to *VT Digger*.

Although environmental advocates and pipeline opponents welcomed PSB's decision, Sandy Levine — a senior attorney at the Conservation Law Foundation — told *VT Digger* that "the gas pipeline remains a bungled project and a bad choice for Vermont. When smart investors are running from a fossil fuel future, Vermonters should not be yoked to this outdated, polluting and expensive pipeline."

Vermont Gas' troubles are not limited to financial penalties imposed by the Public Service Board. In August 2016, the Department of Public Service filed a "Notice of Probable Violation" with VGS, claiming the company failed to comply with various standards regarding electrical safety. In response, the PHMSA has committed its "wielding and corrosion experts" to investigating VGS' construction practices.

Beth Parent, a spokesperson for Vermont Gas, issued a statement pertaining to the federal investigation, stating that VGS "will work very closely with the Department of Public Service, our state regulators, and our federal regulators to ensure that all safety standards are met or exceeded."

Despite the growing concerns and resistance, the pipeline is scheduled to be completed by early April. Vermont Gas CEO Don Rendall says that he is "very proud of the work from [his] team at Vermont Gas...we reset the project, got it back on track, and we're now on the verge of completing it."

OPINIONS

Disclaimer: Reader op-eds do not reflect the opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* editorial board.

In Praise of MSA's Fight Back

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of The Middlebury Campus.

We've entered the era of President Donald J. Trump, and after many summer months with Middlebury students — and others — arguing that a seemingly-impossible Trump administration would usher in a new wave of neo fascism, reality is proving disturbingly close to what was once deemed mere hyperbolic humor. Within days of taking office, amidst a series of other disturbing policies, President Trump has presented an executive order banning individuals from seven predominantly Muslim countries for 90 days: Syria, Iran, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen and Libya. Additionally, the ban bans all refugees for 120 days, and Syrian refugees indefinitely. The national embarrassment of German chancellor Angela Merkel feeling the need to call President Trump and "explain" the Geneva Convention — as reported by Sam Jones and Philip Oltermann of *The Guardian* — pales in comparison to the horrific human rights violations this blatantly racist, xenophobic ban has caused and will continue to cause.

Our nation's president has turned his back on Syrian refugees fleeing the worst humanitarian crisis since the Holocaust and effectively criminalized Islam. This is not a casual, inevitable swing of a mysterious, political pendulum "back" to the proverbial right; this is, as aptly put by *New York Times* Opinions contributor Charles M. Blow, "about democracy and fascism, war and peace, life and death. I wish I could write those words without the callous commercialism with which some will no doubt read them, as overheated rhetoric simply designed to stir agitation ... But alas, they are not."

"Now is not a time for trepidation or circuitous responses steeped in lofty rhetoric ... Now is a time to fight, not just talk."

If you weren't able to escape the Middlebury bubble to participate in some of the nationwide protests that have taken place since President Trump's inauguration, you may feel disconnected, helpless. What can we do in our little corner of the world, so far from the bustling metropolises garnering media attention? Hopefully, a lot.

"What can we do in our little corner of the world, so far from the bustling metropolises garning media attention?"

On Feb. 2, Middlebury MSA held it's own student-organized rally against President Trump's executive order. The rally featured a number of student, staff and faculty speakers, including President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton. We at the *Campus* would like to commend President Patton for her commentary on the ban thus far; we are grateful for her deliberate words of solidarity and support. But we also don't want President Patton's words to overshadow those of the heartfelt student speakers who shared their voices at the event, and who were not captured on film by local news stations — only President Patton was. We also encourage everyone involved with the Middlebury administration to stay vigilant, and to ensure that the College's policies and initiatives during this moment of upheaval are remembered kindly by history. Now is not a time for trepidation or circuitous responses steeped in lofty rhetoric; indeed, the ability to engage in such behavior is a privilege not afforded to those whose day-to-day well-being is being directly and immediately challenged. Now is a time to fight, not just talk.

But how do we best fight? We at the *Campus* assert that one of the first steps we, as Middlebury students, can take is to listen to our peers who feel most strongly affected by Trump's recent policies. On a campus complicated by overwhelming privilege and whiteness, we would do well to listen to those whose identities inhabit marginalized intersections — be them race, class and/or gender. We would do well not to assume we know how best to be allies, but by asking those who feel especially vulnerable right now what they need. In the long run, there is a fraught political argument to be won, a turbulent fight for an America that celebrates a multiplicity of perspectives but is unilaterally free from racism, sexism, xenophobia and debilitating inequality. In the short run, we can be each others' trustworthy and supportive friends.

The Middlebury Campus

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign CS5 and is printed by the Press Republican in New York. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

Meal Plans Benefit Low-Income Students

TO THE COMMUNITY

***Community Co-Chair Travis Sanderson '19** writes about proposed dining changes.*

The proposal for meal plans was created and announced without sufficient student involvement. When asked about student participation in the decision at a J-term SGA Senate meeting, Executive Director of Food Service Operations Dan Detora pointed only to a Campus article in 2014 as evidence of student involvement in the discussion of meal plans. Combing the archives of the Campus, in fact, yields two articles: the one in 2014, but also one in 2009. Neither of these involved a town hall, an open forum or really any channel at all through which students might have helped influence the conversation. They were reports, nothing more.

There is little evidence of real, credible student contribution in the proposal.

However, the administration's lack of transparency has not been the primary cause of concern among students. Rather, students' concern is largely based on misinformation. For one, all meal plans would cost the same amount of money in tuition. Students on financial aid would not suffer a higher fee. Second, unlimited use of the dining halls will remain an option. Those who do not want to partake in new plans simply don't have to. The addition of swiping will not restrict this, either. People on the unlimited plan will be able to swipe without limit.

The changes are additions, not subtractions.

You might think that everyone is satisfied with the current system. Why fix something that doesn't need fixing? But while this sentiment may be the most prevalent, there is a major beneficial aspect of meal plans that more people need to consider. New meal plans can empower low-income students because a crucial aspect of the new options is credit. In opting out of unlimited swiping at the dining halls, students who choose this type of plan could use the reallocated money as credit at other key community locations. They could spend the credit at the Grille, Crossroads, 51 Main, MiddExpress, potentially even for laundry services. These facilities are not equally accessible right now. Most students don't have to think about spending too much money, and thus have better access to these places on a more frequent basis. Low-income students don't have the same luxury. As a low-income student myself, I am personally acquainted with the way a lack of privilege bars us from a lot of our Middlebury community. The new meal plan option would increase accessibility because low-income students who choose the credit option will not have to think about the money they are spending off campus nearly as much. Low-income students' receipts would be taken from their school account — the same fund they already pay — rather than from their wallets.

"Most students don't have to think about spending too much money, and thus have better access to [the Grille, Crossroads and 51 Main] on a more frequent basis. Low-income students don't have the same luxury."

Opting in to the new meal plans would not be without risk. In the final J-term Senate meeting, the chair of the Finance Committee pointed out how the timing of losing credit may also disproportionately impact low-income students. People can end up at zero on their credit during finals week, which is the most popular time in the semester to take advantage of services like MiddExpress. However, the option to take this risk in the interest of an entire semester with less financial anxiety will be worth it to a lot of low-income students, including myself. And students can opt out if they don't want to take that risk, or just prefer the unlimited option. Again, the new meal plans are just new options.

The benefit of a greater number of meal plan options, while not affecting the majority of Middlebury students, should illustrate why meal plans are a positive change for our campus. They serve as an empowerment device, which will combat the inequity that exists between the wealthy and poor members of our community. The effect of that benefit cannot be understated. And while there are major issues in the complete lack of real student involvement in the decision, the move toward meal plans will benefit our campus. Since we have the opportunity to help create the details of these plans, let us move in this direction. We need to work to ensure that the details and implementation of meal plans serve our interests as a collective student body and community.

Thank you for your time.

Faculty: In Support of Economic Diversity

The following statement will be presented at the next Middlebury College faculty meeting on March 17, to be voted on to ex-

OP-ED

***Faculty members** express concern about socioeconomic diversity.*

press the sense of the full faculty. We wish to share it with the college community now to signal our support for the issues raised in last month's editorial, "Socioeconomic Diversity at Middlebury," and encourage our colleagues and students to join us in supporting these efforts. The 23 undersigned faculty members are only a portion of the faculty concerned about these issues, and we hope to garner wide support for this motion in March.

Faculty Motion on Economic Diversity at Middlebury College

On January 18, the New York Times published a study of inequality among college and university students. Amidst these sobering data, Middlebury College was ranked #9 on the list of the largest ratio between the numbers of students whose family earnings are in the top 1% of Americans (more than $630k annually) and students whose family earnings are in the bottom 60% of Americans (less than $65k annually). 22.8% of Middlebury students come from the top 1% of American families, and 53% come from the top 5%, whereas only 14.2% come from the bottom 60%; this all adds up to a median family income of $244k.

We, the Middlebury College faculty, believe the situation captured by these numbers runs counter to our mission of educating a diverse student body and does not reflect our policy of admitting the most qualified students regardless of financial need. Echoing the arguments of a student editorial in The Middlebury Campus, we urge our administrative colleagues to take the steps necessary to reshape the financial profile of future Middlebury cohorts to ensure that we are educating a more economically diverse student body. Specifically, we ask that the administration takes the necessary steps to change the ratio reported in this report to ensure that Middlebury is no longer one of the 38 institutions that educate more students from the top 1% than the bottom 60%, a single statistic that is emblematic of the larger problem.

Specific questions we hope to find answers to in a report from the administration include:

- What are the comparative number of applicants and the acceptance rate for applicants who do and do not qualify for financial aid?

- What is the comparative yield for applicants who do and do not qualify for financial aid?

- What proportion of financial aid students are admitted through open admission vs. specialized programs (e.g. Posse, Davis World Scholars)?

- How do these numbers change for applicants who apply early vs. regular decision?

- How do these numbers change for applicants who are legacies and/or recruited athletes?

- What admissions priorities can be changed to make our student body more economically diverse, including targeting outreach, shifting messaging, and changing ratios for early vs. regular admits?

- What budgetary priorities can be adjusted to increase the number of students on financial aid, rather than the planned reduction of financial aid budgets, without compromising the quality of Middlebury faculty or its core educational mission?

We recognize that there are financial constraints that drive enrollment decisions. However, we also note that many peer institutions of similar reputation and quality but with lower endowments per student are not on that "list of 38," including Carleton College, Haverford College, Macalester College, Oberlin College, Vassar College, and Wesleyan University—might we learn from them how they manage to offer a comparable education to a more economically diverse student body? We believe that it is a question of budget priorities and financial responses, not inability to meet student need, and thus urge the institution to prioritize educating an economically diverse student body far more than we currently do.

Presented to the faculty by:

Holly Allen, Assistant Professor of American Studies

Mez Baker-Médard, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies

Daniel Brayton, Associate Professor of English & American Literatures

Priscilla Bremser, Professor of Mathematics

Svea Closser, Associate Professor of Anthropology

Gloria Estela González Zenteno, Associate Professor of Spanish

Jonathan Isham, Professor of Economics and Environmental Studies

Rachael Joo, Assistant Professor of American Studies

Christian Keathley, Associate Professor of Film & Media Culture

Peter Hans Matthews, Professor of Economics

Jamie McCallum, Assistant Professor of Sociology

David Miranda Hardy, Assistant Professor of Film and Media Culture

Jason Mittell, Professor of Film & Media Culture and American Studies

Sujata Moorti, Professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Caitlin Myers, Associate Professor of Economics

Linus Owens, Associate Professor of Sociology

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Marion Wells, Associate Professor of English & American Literatures

Catharine Wright, Senior Lecturer, Writing Program

Patriotism in 2017: This Land Is Our Land

"Raise your hand if you consider yourself super patriotic," my twelfth grade AP US Government teacher said to my

READER OP-ED

***Rae Aaron '19.5** argues that activism is a key component of patriotism.*

mostly asleep 7:45 am 30-person class. A patriot: a person who vigorously supports his/her country and is prepared to defend it against enemies or detractors. Yep, me in a nutshell. I looked around the room and noticed I was the only student with my hand in the air. Some others seemed conflicted, doing one of those half-hearted hand-raises that turn into a head scratch.

I had never actively considered myself "really patriotic" or thought about the meaning of American patriotism as a public high schooler in Phoenix, Arizona. But as I slouched over my desk eating an Eggo waffle in my school tennis uniform, I didn't hesitate for a second to raise my hand. Since then, I've had long disputes with friends and strangers about why they, too, should be super patriotic. About why, with its many flaws, the US is the greatest country in the world. But today? It seems like the meaning of being a patriot has changed.

Moving from the John McCain's desert to Bernie Sanders' granola haven, I've heard a variety of political perspectives and a range of knowledge. The ability to debate politics is the foundation of our freedom, and activism is not only our right but also our obligation in this country. My deep love for the US is manifested in my criticism of the structure, system and process by which politicians and civil servants carry out the intricacies of our democracy.

This last presidential election season has complicated my patriotism. When the polls show our country as more divided than ever, our president and representatives turn back the clock on women, gay and minority rights; cut funding for research, education and social welfare programs; and withhold immigrant and refugee visas, patriotism takes on a different meaning.

Maybe de Maistre was right; the US has the government it deserves. Maybe we took moderation for granted, maybe we became too critical. Maybe "making America great again" is false rhetoric, a facade for an easy way out of dealing with uncertainty in an ever-complex world.

Over my Febmester in fall 2015 — when John Boehner's wild resignation was the scandal of Washington — I answered phones in my Congresswoman's DC office. The classic Arizona constituent phone-call would feature an angry voice demanding, "When I read Breitbart today..." and I would silently bang my head on my keyboard with the urge to hang up. But why hang up? If Breitbart Fake News Inc. can call Congress and Steve Bannon can pull up a chair in the Situation Room, we have work to do. And if we're truly patriotic, we'll pick up the phone, march in the streets, and do what it takes to create the America that embodies our values.

"This last presidential election season has complicated my patriotism."

Churchill commented, "You can always count on Americans to do the right thing—after they've tried everything else." No one said America was easy. Achieving freedom, liberty and justice for all was not easy. This nation emerged from a civil war united. Let's find that unity. A patriot: a person who vigorously supports their country and is prepared to defend it against enemies or detractors. Is your hand raised? Mine is.

Seeking Difference

For the last several weeks, I have been helping student facilitators get ready for the first ever all-first-year JusTalks. JusTalks is the result of a six-year long student organiz-

READER OP-ED

***Rhiya Trivedi '12** proposes bipartisan friendship.*

ing effort by myself and many others to make Middlebury a slightly more inclusive place. JusTalks are conversations about identity, power and privilege intended to help us all practice greater curiosity and compassion.

Over the last several weeks, I have been so impressed and moved by so many student facilitators and participants who showed up with great intention and thoughtfulness. I have also realized that most of us — myself included — are not ready to just talk.

I have learned that many of us move through the world sizing each other up. We evaluate someone's way of talking, dressing, thinking and acting, and we make subconscious decisions as to whether that person is or isn't "our people." I believe that when we relegate someone to the "not my people" category, we are just waiting for them to confirm our bias — waiting for them to show us that at best, they don't care about us, and at worst, they hate us.

Once we have put someone in this position, there is almost nothing they can do to save themselves from our bias. They are bound to do something that confirms our assumption that they are a bad person and that we are better — more righteous — than them. JusTalks — hell, Middlebury — will never be what it could if we are all arriving with that kind of bias about some people, whether based on gender, class, race, political ideology, attitude towards sports, immigration status, or some other aspect of identity. We will never have loving relationships with people truly different from us if we arrive with that kind of bias.

For me, perceived whiteness, straightness, conservatism, athleticism and wealth can all trigger the "not my people" category. For you, it might be a completely different set of characteristics. But if you think you might have even a little of this bias, for whatever kind of person, I'd invite you to join me in asking:

"How could I arrive without assuming that someone is or isn't 'my people?' How could I see someone who strikes me as deeply different, and still be open to the possibility that, given some time together, we could be friends? If I could see someone that way, would I arrive at JusTalks and, more generally, at life with a more open mind?"

I want to try to answer these questions by making a friend who is fundamentally different from me in some important way(s). I want to spend 5 in-person hours with someone who is radically different from me, and see if we can learn to love each other. We don't have to agree on anything, other than that we want to care about each other and that we want to see our well-being as inextricably linked.

I am a Bernie Sanders supporting, Canadian, Indian, non-binary, leftist, queer, class-privileged activist. If at least three of these things make you sure that you could not be my friend, you might be the one for me.

Interested in trying to be my friend? E-mail me at rhiyatrivedi@gmail.com or call me at 347-235-9410. When I say that I look forward to getting to know you, I really, really mean it.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Are you f*cking serious?

A: Yes. 100%.

Q: Were you worried about publishing your contact information for the whole Middlebury community?

A: Not more than I was worried about doing it in New York City.

Q: Did you steal this idea from Remember the Titans—the hit Disney-Channel-Denzel-Washington-football-movie?

A: I absolutely did.

Q: Don't you think the bias comes from somewhere? People legitimately feel wounded, don't they?

A: Bias absolutely does come from somewhere very legitimate. This op-ed is less concerned with the origins of bias, and more with what the hell we're going to do about it.

Q: Are you serious about 5 in-person hours? You don't live here anymore!

A: I will be back frequently to support JusTalks. I will come to you, don't worry.

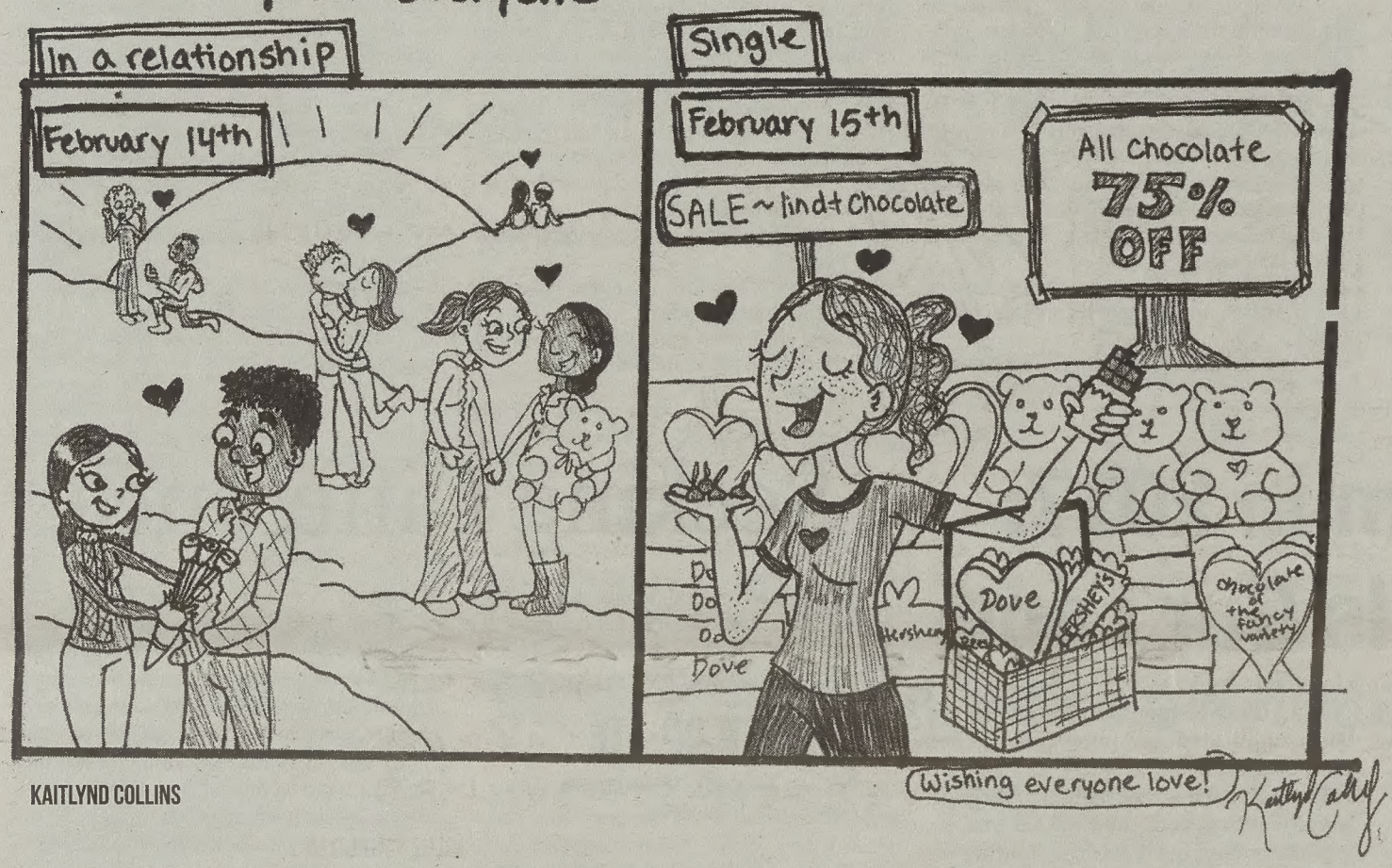
CARTOONS

The Middlebury Campus

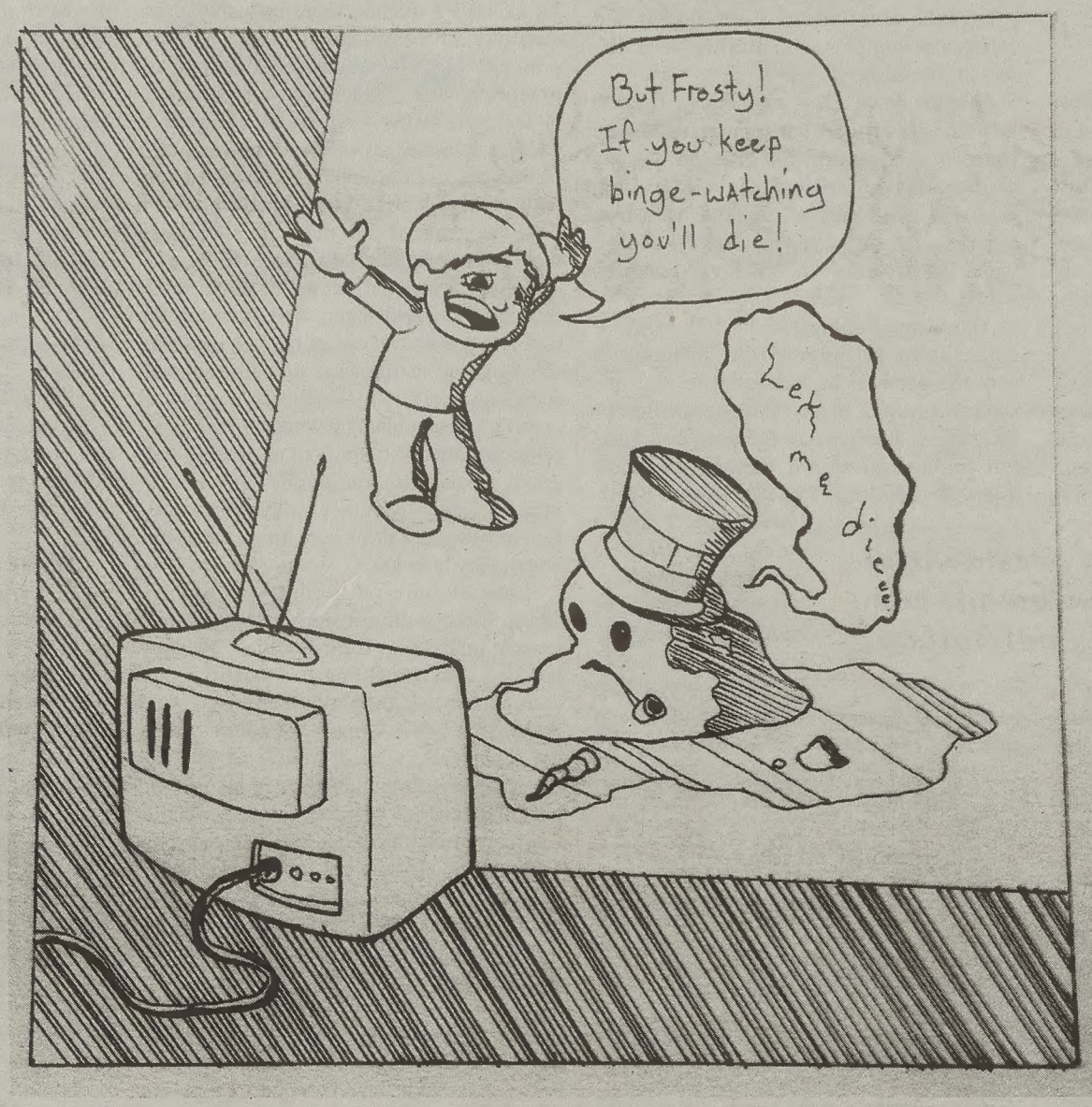
College Cats: Senior Year by Emily Cox go/comicsbyemily

EMILY COX

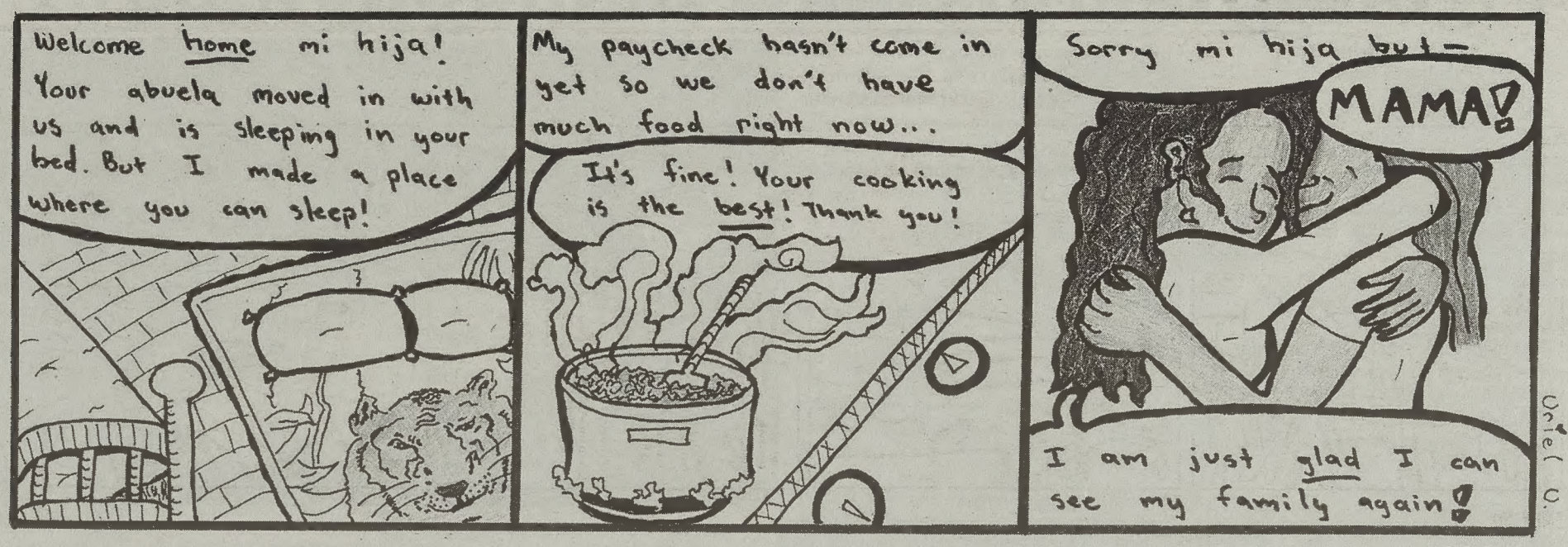
A Holiday for Everyone



KAITLYND COLLINS



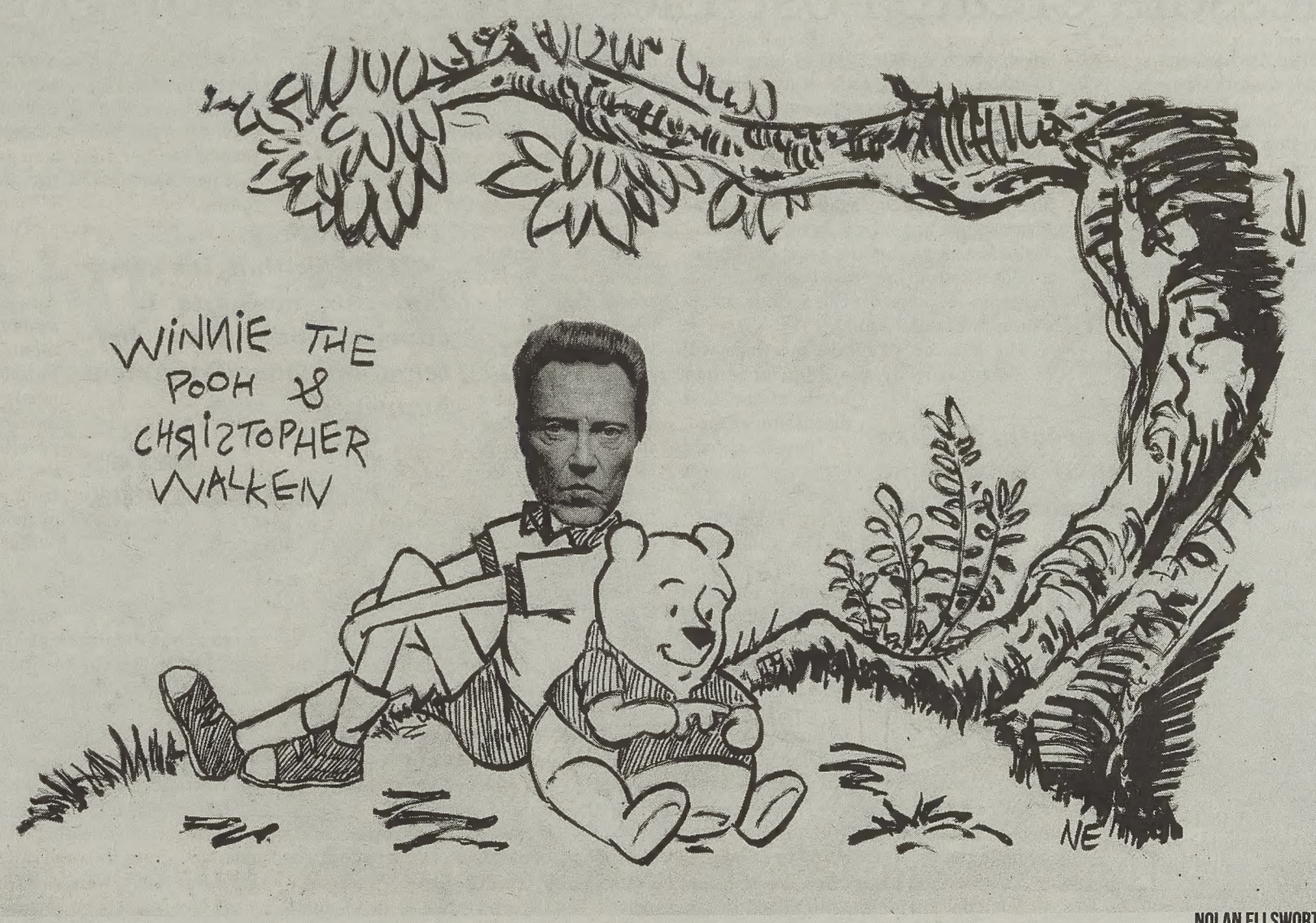
WIN HOMER


Welcome home mi hija!
Your abuela moved in with us and is sleeping in your bed. But I made a place where you can sleep!
My paycheck hasn't come in yet so we don't have much food right now...
It's fine! Your cooking is the best! Thank you!
Sorry mi hija but—
MAMA!
I am just glad I can see my family again!
Uriel U.

URIEL ULLOA

SUSAN REALIZES SHE FORGOT TO INSTAGRAM HER MORNING BUN AT VERGENNES LAUNDRY.

MILLIE VON PLATEN



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Fighting Bad Weather at the Snow Bowl

By Alex Newhouse
Features Editor

The Middlebury College Snow Bowl is one of the more iconic parts of the College, and many students will say that having a ski area close by was one of the deciding factors in their choice of college. Some years, the skiing is fantastic and the snow conditions perfect – many juniors and seniors speak longingly about the ski season in early 2015, when feet of powder fell onto the hills of the Snow Bowl.

But there have also been weeks, months, and sometimes full seasons that have a severe lack of snow. Last year was particularly bad, with many ski areas in the region receiving 50 to 80 percent less snow than normal.

This past week has given skiers and snowboarders something to celebrate: the ski area has been hit hard by snowstorms recently, and every run on the mountain has excellent snow coverage. Up until now, though, the conditions have not been stellar. The relatively warm rains that hit Vermont during the middle of January, in particular, meant that snow melted quickly up at the ski area, and skiers were faced with icy and slushy conditions for much of Winter Term.

But terrible snow conditions mean more than just disappointed students hoping to hit the slopes after class: they also prove to be a challenge for the people responsible for keeping the Snow Bowl running.

Peter Mackey, manager of the Snow Bowl, explained that the main goal of the area is to keep at least a few of the runs covered with manmade snow. To do this, Mackey and his crew have to proactively account for rapidly changing weather and slope conditions by aggressively making snow for the first part of the season.

As a result of its particular snowmaking practices, the Snow Bowl can stay open more consistently through warm weather than other nearby ski areas. "Our snowmaking philosophy [is to make] enough snow on each trail —as we make snow on them — to not have to go back again," Mackey said. "A lot of areas make just enough to get a trail open and then hope for natural snow to augment what they make."

The Snow Bowl begins making snow after Thanksgiving and continues until the five main runs have a solid base of snow. As a result, the Snow Bowl was able to stay open in spite of several days of rain that had melted away much of the snow and decimated the snowpack down at Rikert Nordic Area.

"Although we did seem to experience a thaw/warm-up event almost weekly for most of December and January, we were never close to closing because of adequate manmade snow," Mackey said. "Manmade [snow] is so much more durable and less susceptible to thaw events because of a much higher water content than natural snow."

> ***"Although we did seem to experience a thaw/warm-up event almost weekly for most of December and January, we were never close to closing because of adequate manmade snow. Manmade [snow] is so much more durable and less susceptible to thaw events because of a much higher water content than natural snow."***
>
> PETER MACKEY
> SNOW BOWL MANAGER

Due to the nature of the snowmaking machines, manmade snow is composed of much smaller crystals than natural snow. This means that it is more dense, which in turn means that it can hold up better under both heavy use and warmth.

Mackey also stated that the Snow Bowl's operations were not significantly affected by the unseasonable weather in January. Although it can happen that the area has to decrease its staff due to poor conditions, Mackey has not been forced to do that yet this year. "Because the thaw events rarely lasted more than a couple [days], we never had to lay off staff between our needs for operating two lifts and manning three snowmaking shifts," he said.

MIDDLEBURY SNOW BOWL

The Snow Bowl sometimes has to contend with poor snow coverage, but the ski area's snowmaking practices mean that it very rarely is forced to cut staff or shut down.

However, even though he did not have to change his staff, Mackey and his team cannot passively wait for the weather to happen. "It does require good interpretation of weather forecasts and crew willing to be flexible with their work schedules," he said.

For the Snow Bowl's ski patrol, bad conditions present specific challenges for the way they work. In spite of this, people often enjoy skiing in slushy snow and warmer weather because of the softer slopes. "Slush conditions are fun and people seem to enjoy skiing it," said Octave Lepinard '19.5, a new member of the ski patrol. "It's really when the freeze cycle comes in that we get injuries."

For patrollers, the main issue that comes from these warm weather patterns is that the snow melts — and then, when it gets cold again, it freezes. This can make the ski hills both rock-solid and icy, a potentially dangerous combination.

Jessie Klinck '17, co-president of ski patrol, explained that these conditions require the patrollers to be particularly vigilant. "When there isn't a lot of snow, or it's frezing cold with howling winds, we have to rely on each other for support and help," she said. "We have to be looking out for our own safety in addition to the safety of the guests on the mountain."

Periods of low snow cover followed by freezing weather also force the patrollers to take special precautions. "Icy conditions are very challenging and require us to sweep trails making sure that the runs are skiable for the public," Klinck said.

In addition, rain eats away at snow cover, disappointing skiers and patrollers alike. "When it rains, it's just disappointing because as patrollers we would like to have the whole mountain open," Lepinard said. "But if it's unsafe for the public to ski it, or [if] being extracted in the case of an injury might be difficult due to lack of snow, we need to have it closed."

Mackey stated that the possibility of the Snow Bowl having to close is remote due to their maintenance practices. "We would only close in the very extreme situation of not having adequate coverage for safe use of any of our snowmaking trails," he said.

Fortunately for Mackey, the management and ski patrol, the ski area no longer faces any risk of closing. Over the past week, the area has received well over a foot of new snow.

Professors Create Post-Election Discussion Group

By Ellie Anderson
Contributing Writer

In the wake of the controversial 2016 presidential election, antagonistic sentiments have erupted all over the Middlebury community. Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies Professor Laurie Essig and English and American Literatures Professor Marion Wells were part of a group that created the Post Eleven-Nine Reading Group in the hopes of rebuilding community after the election.

On Thursday, Feb. 16, the first two meetings of the "Post Eleven-Nine Reading Group" took place. The name of the group refers to the presidential election that occurred on Nov. 8 of last year, and the group is aimed at those students, faculty and staff interested in communal discussions regarding President Trump and related political issues.

"We just really felt like there needed to be some sort of response to this completely unprecedented political moment," Essig said.

"I didn't feel comfortable not doing anything," agreed Wells.

The group's steering committee envisions its manifestation in a couple of ways: lunch meetings every other week to discuss specific articles and current issues, and less frequent meetings to discuss longer relevant texts through various theoretical lenses.

Interested students, faculty members and staff are encouraged to attend the forums that appeal to them. Essig and Wells also hope that the group will function as a source for opportunities for activism in response to the actions of the Trump Administration.

The location of future meetings will be determined by the attendance and needs of the first discussion group.

> ***"We just really felt like there needed to be some sort of response to this completely unprecendented political moment."***
>
> LAURIE ESSIG
> PROFESSOR OF GENDER, SEXUALITY AND FEMINIST STUDIES

"People should come and make it what they want it to be," Essig said.

The committee intends to send out the readings beforehand via a Listserv Essig and Wells created with Dean of the Library Mike Roy to those who have expressed interest. This would allow participants to decide which meetings to attend based on the topic and to come to the meetings ready to discuss.

The steering committee is also eager to see what people are interested in and plan on modifying the group if the first meeting deems it necessary.

"I think that it's clear that our mandate is to educate ourselves better about how Trumpism happened," Wells said. "I think for people who are interested in that — that's who's going to show up."

The group's meetings are meant to be discussions rather than debates, and Essig and Wells do not plan to facilitate them too closely.

"If it becomes contentious we'll cross that bridge when it comes," Wells said. "The goal is to be honest, to be able to have an honest discussion and not be tiptoeing around the issues."

> ***"I think that it's clear that our mandate is to educate ourselves better about how Trumpism happened."***
>
> MARION WELLS
> CHAIR, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURES

Wells also noted that opposing stances can be beneficial to a well-rounded discussion.

So far, positive response has met the group's formation. Wells said she has seen a lot of "relief and gratitude that there was somewhere to go and raise the issues and talk about the issues" in emails she has received expressing interest in the group.

To Essig and Wells' surprise, more than 160 people have asked to join the Listserv. So far this number has comprised equally of students, faculty and staff.

The unexpected amount of interest in the group caused a delay in scheduling the first meeting. The volume of interest forced the steering committee to return to the drawing board. Such a large group may cause the first meeting to split into several smaller discussion groups, led by various members of the steering committee.

The committee is comprised of seven professors from varying academic departments. It hopes to be able to meet the needs of as many participants as possible by bringing in expertise from a wide range of fields.

Essig and Wells hope that this will also allow for students to learn more about the different aspects of current issues from the economic impacts of the election to its effects on the education system.

In addition to Laurie Essig and Marion Wells, members of the steering committee include Economics Professor Peter Matthews, Education Studies Professor Tara Affolter, Sociology Professor Jamie McCallum, Dean of the Library Mike Roy and Karin Hanta of Chellis House. They have each been very involved in the development of the group and may participate as discussion leaders along with Essig and Wells.

MSA Organizes Rally for Refugees

Continued from page 1

The rally garnered widespread support from faculty, including those at the Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life. Mark Orten, the dean of spiritual and religious life, spoke at the rally and praised the Muslimm Student Association for their efforts to put the event together.

"At the same time that administrators and chaplains in our office were discussing ways to respond to the outrageous executive order, we learned that the leaders of the MSA had a Rally Against the Ban in mind," Orten said. "Always preferring to support student initiatives, when constructive, and understanding that we might be in for more of a marathon than a sprint on these issues, we committed to support the MSA."

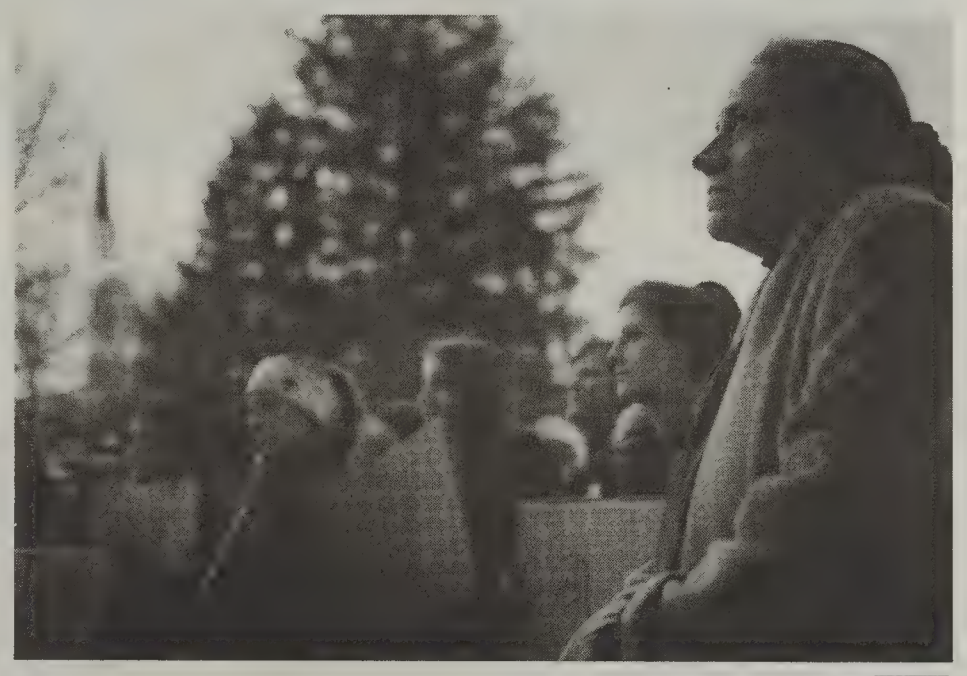
President of Middlebury Laurie L. Patton also attended and spoke at the rally. "We are all here in solidarity with the Muslim Students Association," Patton said in her address. "As the MSA knows, and has worked so hard to teach us, and as we should all continue to learn, an educational community is deeply strengthened by the open exchange of ideas ... Today we stand with our Muslim brothers and sisters because there are individuals who can no longer participate in that exchange because they are prohibited by policy from entering our country. Education is about dignity and respect, and this ban is about neither."

In addition to administrators, several students spoke at the rally including Naqvi, MSA Co-President Garda Ramadhito '19 and Travis Sanderson '19. Student speakers shared personal narratives alongside calls for action. In his speech, Sanderson spoke directly to his fellow white students in the crowd.

"I wished to call attention to the role that bystanders play. To not act in defense of the persecuted is to perpetuate their persecution," he said. "Dr. King drew attention to this in calling out the white moderate. In my opinion, the white moderate is still alive and well, calling themself 'liberal' while criticizing the methods of resistance employed by the less privileged and doing nothing. As I said in my speech, 'if you stand on the sidelines, you are in the way. You are guilty.' That was the core message I hoped to convey."

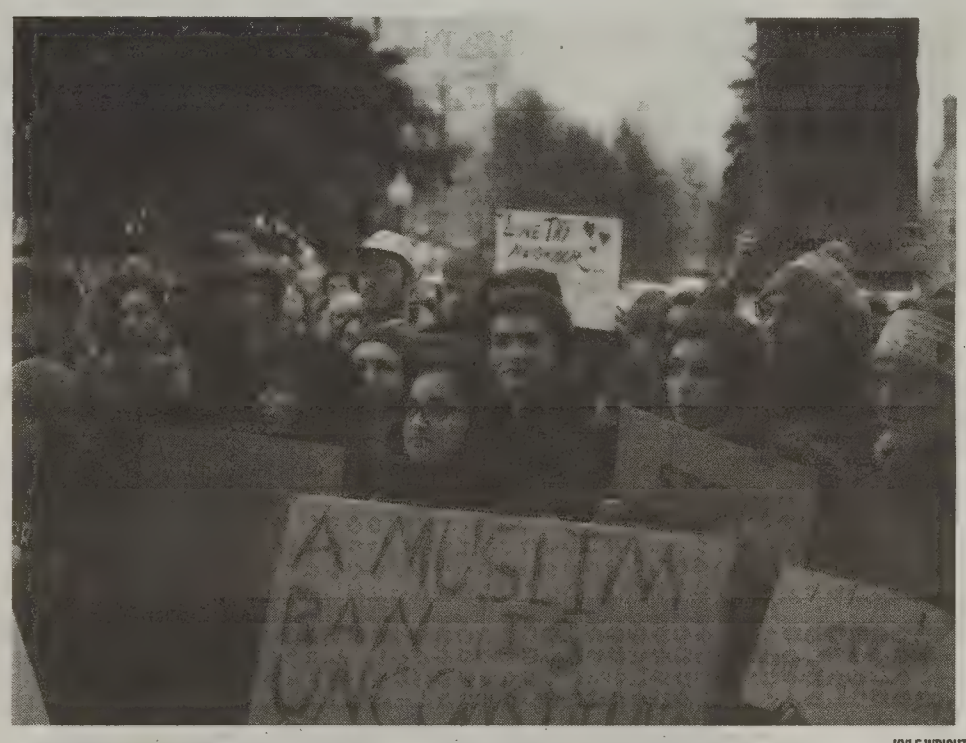
The student organizers of the event were happy with how the rally went. "I was surprised by the turnout," Ramadhito said. "I didn't expect that many people would come to the rally, especially students who I'd never seen at MSA events. The attendees were very enthusiastic; they chanted together and cheered the speaker with a powerful energy. I'd never seen that level of support towards the Muslim community before and it made me really proud of Middlebury."

Ramadhito hopes that the rally will inspire students to continue to fight for equal rights for immigrants and refugees. "I hope that students will be energized to take a stand against this illegal executive order and show solidarity with their Muslim friends," he said. "I hope to see more allies attending MSA events and just reaching out to and learning from their Muslim friends."



KYLE WRIGHT

President Laurie L. Patton stands with protestors before speaking to the crowd. Patton delivered a message of inclusion and solidarity to the group of several hundred people.



KYLE WRIGHT

Students joined the Muslim Student Association at a Rally for Refugees to protest the recent executive order banning travel from seven predominantly Muslim countires.

Going forward, Orten hopes to continue to help students in their endeavors to combat the more harmful aspects of the current political climate.

"I, for one, support organic, constructive and hearty responses of student leaders, as well as those of the broader community," Orten said. "Rallies have an important place in moments of urgency, when oppositional public opinion is critical ... Policies of the current executives in this country may continue to threaten and target specific populations of our community, but the resolve of the college and the surrounding town is heartening. Turnout at the rally was evidence of this; both encouraging and inspiring. In times like this I could not be more impressed with our students and the leaders of key organizations impacted by these issues."

Sanderson also emphasized continued participation by students to advocate for marginalized groups. "Middlebury students are often guilty of thinking Middlebury is a safe haven. But freedom is a constant struggle, and oppression is equally constant for refugees and the less marginalized," he said. "Two Muslim students were personally targeted on campus with Islamophobia last fall; a swastika was drawn on a Jewish center town door. We are not immune in Middlebury, Vt. to the cult of hatred. And we must actively fight against the oppression of our classmates, even if we don't experience oppression ourselves."

> ***"I hope that students will be energized to take a stand against this illegal executive order and show solidarity with their Muslim friends. I hope to see more allies attending MSA events."***
>
> GARDA RAMADHITO '19

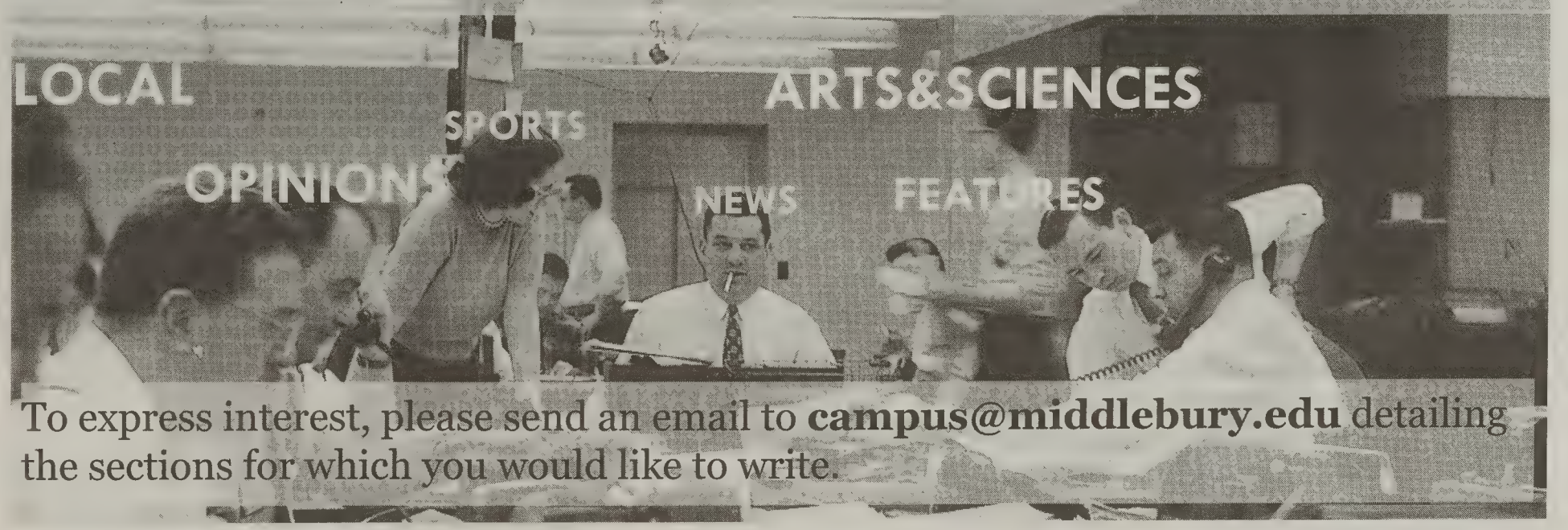
To this end, Ramadhito extended an open invitation to all students to attend MSA events, including weekly Halal dinners.

"Hopefully, we will hold more discussions between student groups to maintain the momentum that we got from the rally," he said. "On Thursday evenings, the MSA holds Halal dinners in Proctor Redfield room and we welcome everyone to join for discussion – or they could just hang out with really cool Muslims."

The MSA also wants to encourage students to attend the Syria Symposium organized by Go/Refuge on March 3-4. "It will be about the Syrian Civil War and the resulting refugee crisis," Ramadhito said. "We have an amazing lineup of speakers such as the activist Loubna Mrie whose father was part of the Syrian military in the initial part of the war. It would be a meaningful opportunity to learn about arguably the most important and complex crisis in recent times."

WANT A PIECE OF THE ACTION?

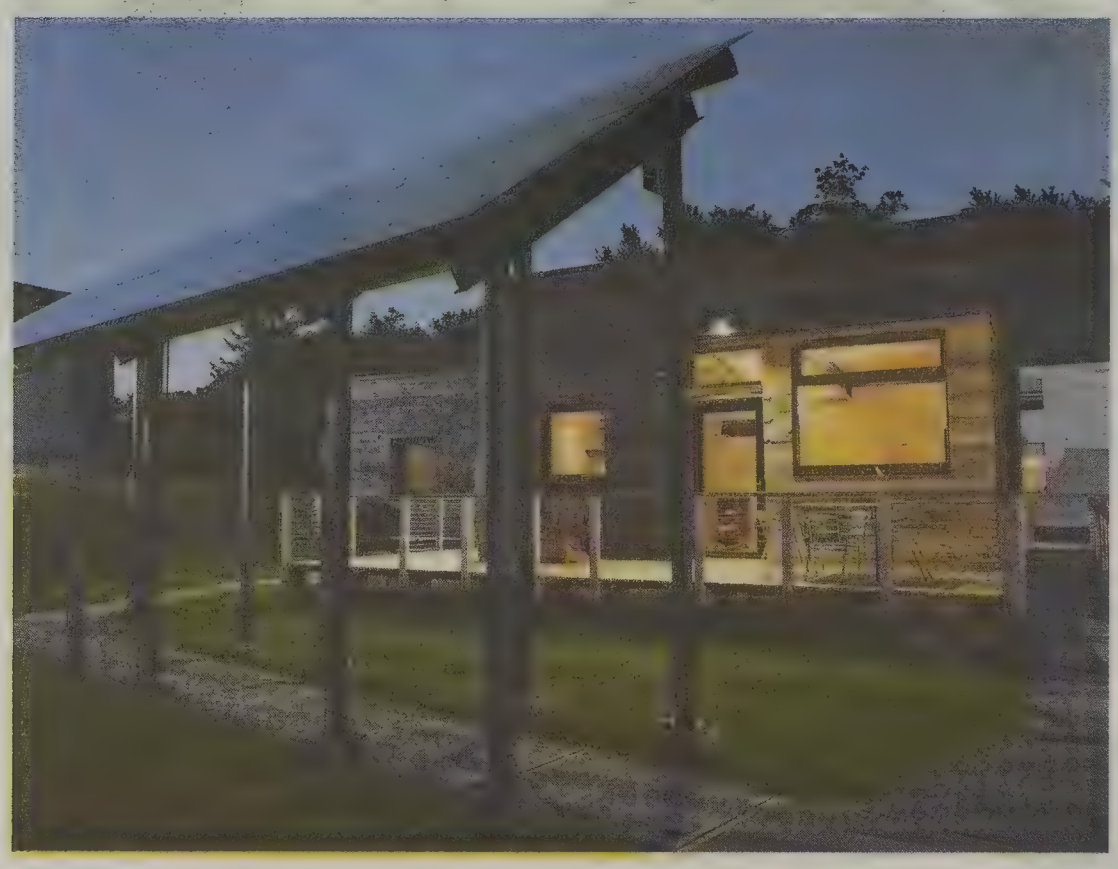
The Middlebury Campus is always seeking new voices. Writers are needed in the following sections:



To express interest, please send an email to **campus@middlebury.edu** detailing the sections for which you would like to write.

A Peek Inside: Middl

It's that time of year again. Housing application
ruary 1. Unleashed from the commons system,
bling to form groups of three, four and up to 30
owned homes on
With their full-sized beds and brand new kitche
townhouses are a popular first choice. But wh
two solar houses, InSite and Self-Reli
An application to live in one of these energy eff
ergy than simply signing up for a lottery. But f
living and the opportunity to live in their
Middlebury students designed and built these
Energy's solar decathlon competition. Self-Rel
structed in 2009 and entered in the 2011 compe
placed eighth overall in the 2013 competition
contest and third place in affordability and e
competition is still held every two years, though
Both houses cost nearly a million dollars to desi
to the competition held
As the sun begins to set on most housing appl
perks and quirks of living in the C



INSITE

99 Shannon St., 2 person, 2 singles

(Interview with Jen Koide '17, psychology)

The Good: The big windows that let in natural light. It's really cozy snuggling up with a blanket, book and tea with the sun shining into InSite's common spaces.

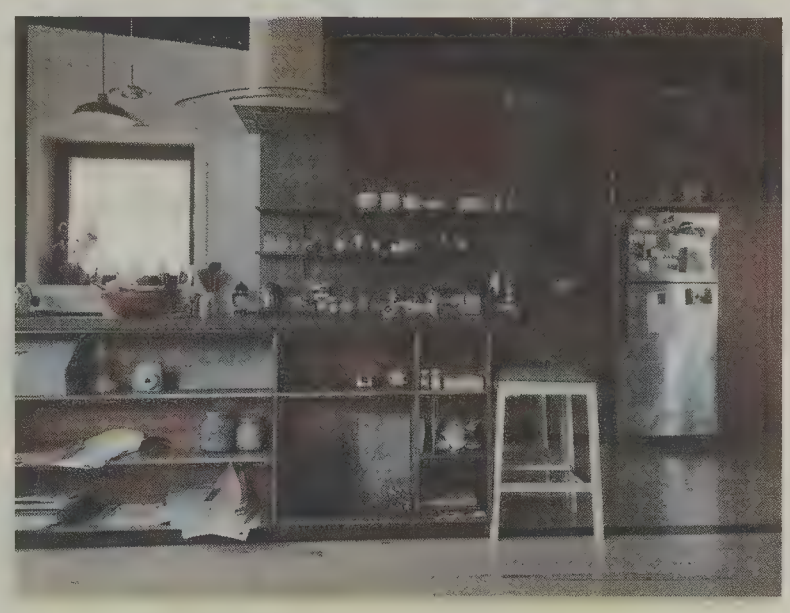
The Not-So-Good: It can be hard to publicize and host events if you're involved with a lot of extracurricular activities, work and balancing a tough course-load. At night, the living room can feel a little dark.

Fun Facts: The holes in the Maple wood floors are from sugar taps. The insulation is made of blue jeans and old newspapers – including our very own Addison Independent. The bathroom sink was made and glazed in the pottery house.

Favorite Event: During Fall Family weekend, we invited architecture thesis students to visit our home with their families. It was really neat to share what we knew about the house in terms of its energy capabilities and also hear from them a different architectural analyses of InSite. We learned so much. There was also homemade bread we baked and local cheese we bought with the solar house's annual $500 event budget.

Also mark your calendars— we will host another sustainability-themed movie and discussion night coming up on March 3, at 8 p.m.!

Things to Know Before Applying: Apply with someone you love. InSite is a two-person house and is so different than living in any dorm. You share a home! It's more than just sharing a double.



Reporting by Hye-Jin Kim
Photos by Hye-Jin Kim and courtesy of M
Sustainability Office

ddlebury Solar Homes

g applications opened earlier this month on Feb-
ons system, next year's upperclassmen are scram-
and up to 30, to live in one of the several college-
l homes on campus.
d new kitchens, it's no surprise that the Ridgeline
oice. But what's less known is that Middlebury's
nd Self-Reliance, are also up for grabs.
se energy efficient homes requires a bit more en-
ottery. But for students interested in sustainable
ive in their own house, it might be worth it.
d built these houses for the U.S. Department of
on. Self-Reliance was the College's first try, con-
2011 competition. It placed fourth overall. InSite
competition but won first place in the hot water
ability and entertainment system. The national
ears, though the College no longer funds entries.
ollars to design, build and ship across the country
etition held in California.
housing applications this week, check out some
ng in the College's two solar homes!

SELF-RELIANCE

44 Porterfield Rd., 3 person, 1 double and 1 single

(Interview with Lucy Reading '17, political science and Bia Brigstocke '17, neuroscience)

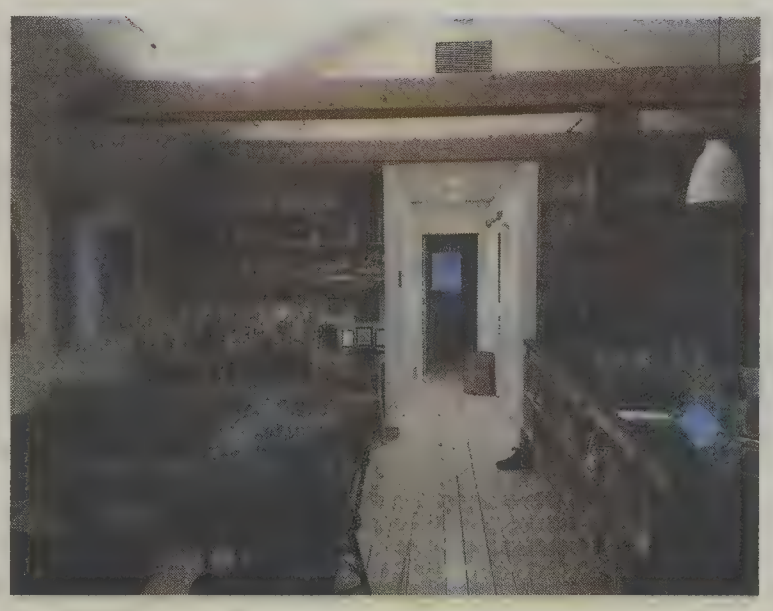
The Good: The feeling of living in a home, rather than a dorm. It feels more independent and social. The laundry and dishwasher are nice, too. – Brigstocke

The Surprising: On the side of the kitchen wall, there's a faucet. If you open it without knowing what it is, water will come pouring out, onto the kitchen floor. It collects water from the roof when it rains so it can be used to water indoor plants. – Reading

Fun Facts: The house is oriented so the floor soaks up sun through the skylights and big windows during the day so it's warmer at night. The skylights and side door create a draft when opened together, a natural version of air conditioning.

Favorite Event: When we invited our neighbors over and cooked flatbread and screened a film about the Green School in Bali. – Brigstocke

Things to Know Before Applying: It's good to know how to garden so you can take advantage of the raised beds on the deck. Also, be prepared to host events not just on sustainable living, but specifically green architecture and design. – Reading



HOW TO APPLY

Learn more about the solar houses, watch a quick video tour and fill out the form online at go/solar (includes four to five short essay questions) by Feb. 19.

rtesy of Middlebury College

JUMP INTO JOURNALISM!

DO YOU LIKE TO WRITE?
TAKE PICTURES?
MAKE GRAPHICS?

Campus Recruitment Meeting
Thursday, March 2 at 6 p.m.
Axinn 229

Join us for an opportunity to meet current editors of *The Middlebury Campus* and learn more about the different sections and roles on the newspaper. No previous journalism experience necessary. Anyone interested in design or photography is welcome to join as well!

"City of Angels" Recalls 1940's Hollywood

By Sabine Poux
Arts & Sciences Editor

One chilly J-Term evening, I found myself walking 20 minutes down the hill from my dorm into the cozy town of Middlebury. I shuffled into the picturesque red-brick Town Hall Theater and sat among students and members of the community alike in the theater's beautiful auditorium. The audience hummed with excitement as the music started for the last showing of the J-Term Musical.

This year's show, presented by Town Hall Theater and the Middlebury Department of Music, was the 1989 musical "City of Angels." The show ran Jan. 27-30. Douglas Anderson, executive director of the Town Hall Theater, directed the musical, and Carol Christensen, affiliate artist in the College's Department of Music, directed music. The duo is tried and true; this was their 12th J-Term Musical together. The show featured a live pit band and an expansive production crew of both students and Town Hall Theater staff.

The J-Term Musical is a unique opportunity for students to mix academics with performance. Most of the students involved with the production receive credit for their work as part of the J-Term class "Music 103: The American Musical in Production." The course is taught by Anderson, Christensen and Bear Irwin, who teaches trombone lessons at the College.

After a mere 18 days, the show's cast and crew put on a full-length musical. For those who don't speak theater, this is an incredible feat. Musicals typically take months to put on, which, in part, is what makes the J-Term Musical so remarkable. The cast worked extremely hard throughout the semester to get the show ready for its debut weekend. Rehearsals took place twice a day, from 1-4 p.m. and again from 7-10 p.m.

"Putting on this huge show in such a short amount of time was a real exercise in professionalism," said Sebastian LaPointe '18, who played Stone. "No other show at Middlebury requires so much of its actors. I had to show up every day, ready to do the job and ready to have a lot of fun doing it. Fortunately this company of great people made having fun everyday an inevitability, so it was a pleasure having them along for the ride."

Some may think that putting on a show under such a time crunch is unnecessarily stressful or crazy, but the four-week nature of J-Term actually lends itself to a uniquely productive and focused rehearsal process.

"J-term is the perfect time to do the musical," said Christensen, who has been an integral part of the J-Term Musical for years. "It allows the students to concentrate very intensively on the project without having to worry about getting assignments done for other classes. It's more like the real world of music theater, in that once we add the dialogue, blocking, band and technical elements, we have only 18 days to get the show together before opening night."

Olivia Christie '19, who played Gabby/Bobbi, agreed, adding that the short-term nature of the show was invigorating.

"What's nice about it is that there is nothing else you have to focus on, so the show is your only commitment. I was able to give my all to the show and I think in the end it pays off," she said "The other nice thing about such a short amount of time for rehearsal is that it all stays fresh. There's not enough time to settle into one way of acting or singing, so I stayed on my toes every night. I think that spawns this really cool, playful, energetic feeling that can get lost when there's more time to get comfortable. It definitely puts you outside of your comfort zone, but that's not necessarily a bad thing."

In addition to being put on in an extremely short amount of time, "City of Angels" had its own challenges as a musical. The show's plot functions as a movie within a play, and revolves around the misadventures and work of Stine (Michael Koutelos '20), an author in the process of moving his stories onto the silver screen of 1940s Hollywood. Throughout the show, Stine is at odds with Buddy Fidler (Connor Pisano '18), the producer/director of the movie who forces the reluctant Stine to change the screenplay so that the end result hardly resembles the original. The other main character of the film is Stone (LaPointe), a detective caught in the middle of crime scene antics and drama-filled romance.

The show frequently switches between Stine's Hollywood struggles and the action of Stine's book-turned-movie itself. Stine and Stone's lives intersect at various points, and the women in their lives alternate between worlds of reality and fiction. Many actors doubled as characters from Stine and Stone's respective worlds, including Christie, playing Gabby/Bobbi, Liana Barron '18, playing Donnie/Oolie, Samantha Allman '17, playing Carla Haywood/Alaura Kingsley and Fink '18, playing Avril/Mallory Kingsley. The duality these actors masterfully expressed demonstrated the striking intersections between the storylines, and effectively blurred the lines between reality and fantastical cinema.

While the story is set in a time that is both realistically and cinematically distant from present-day Hollywood, the show's actors still found ways to connect to the characters and story.

"As an avid fan of film noir and jazz, I felt a deep connection to this show," said LaPointe, who looked at classic film noir detectives like Humphrey Bogart, Alan Ladd and Orson Wells to get into the genre.

MAX KRAUS

Sebastian LaPointe '18 channeled classic film noir detectives for his role as Stone.

"I felt a particularly deep connection with my character because of the time I spent studying film noir before J-Term. After a while, it became clear that cynicism was key for Stone. If I wanted to become Stone, I would need to become a cynic first. Once I took this pivotal step, it was all about peeling away the veneer of my own life, until that of my character had taken hold. When Stone finally got his hooks in me, we took quite a ride."

Christie, who played two different characters in the show, worked with very multifaceted roles for her performance.

"Bobbi is this tragic character who wants so badly to be famous and ruins her life because of it," she said. "Gabby is this powerful businesswoman who is continually brought back to her jerk husband because of love. I spent some serious time thinking about how to best connect to these women and decided that love was what fueled them. Love for their art, love for their significant other, but lack of love for themselves. The both of them do a lot of searching for self in the show and I found that angle to be particularly compelling."

The music in the show also tested the resolve of the cast.

"Being as the musical is a co-production between the Town Hall Theater and the Music Department, Doug and I chose 'City of Angels' for its musical complexity," said Christensen. "The music for the Angel City Five, the jazz quintet in our production [including Kate Allman '17, Sam Boudreau '19, Jack DesBois '19, Fink and Jessie Kuzmicki '19], is particularly demanding in its close harmonies, difficult intervals and often lickety-split tempi."

Christensen also commented on how the show offered unique elements that have been explored less in previous years' musicals, among which are "Chicago" and "Les Misérables."

"Most of the musicals Doug Anderson and I have done in the past are 'sung-through' musicals that involve little or no spoken dialogue, plus we've often done musicals with a large vocal ensemble component, and often a large dance presence. 'City of Angels' was quite a departure, being as it has a smaller cast, a much smaller ensemble element, virtually no dance and lots of spoken dialogue. It was a good opportunity for our students to hone not only their Broadway singing skills, but also to work with Doug on their line interpretation and delivery."

"The music was so difficult," added Christie. "The notes were all over the place: huge jumps, weird keys, difficult rhythms. My character Gabby/Bobbi had to sing some really low notes, but the finale number had her singing an octave about the tenor line. Basically, anything outrageous that could happen in jazz music probably happened in this show."

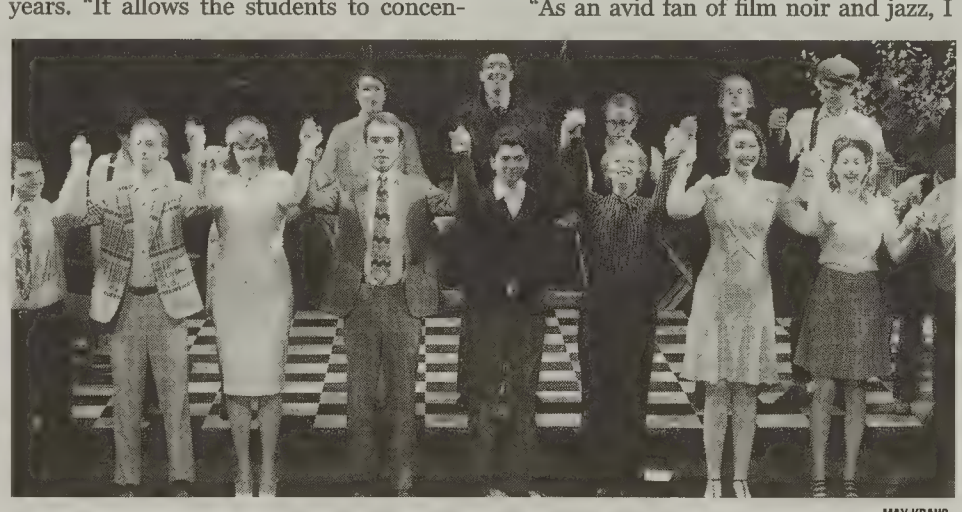
As evidenced by the expansive age range of the show's audience, the J-Term Musical offers a rare connection to the greater Middlebury community that can be hard to find in the College bubble. Especially during J-Term, when many students find it easier to stay cozied up in their beds with Netflix, the musical is an exceptional chance to connect to the community.

"The Town Hall Theater tech staff is made up of community members, and we'll often invite some actors from the community to join us for various roles," Christensen said. "It's a wonderful town-gown activity."

"Performing in the Town Hall Theater draws Middlebury community members, and they make up the majority of the audience and don't have to go onto campus to see students perform," Christie said. "It is this shared experience between the College and the town which doesn't happen that often. The musical brings the show to them, in a way."

And, of course, the show also forged bonds between members of the cast and crew.

"Students who enjoy music theater are some of the nicest people you'll find on the planet," Christensen said. "I really enjoy spending time with them and introducing them to the best scores in the genre. We work very diligently learning the notes and putting all the vocal elements together in our fall rehearsals (through sickness and in health), all while sharing a lot of really good times. If you've worked in theater, you know a special bond develops between cast and crew – a 'theater family,' if you will. This is especially true with the students in the musical, as we work so energetically together from September until the end of January. I become very close with the students – I want to thank them for all they have done, and let them know that I love them, and I will miss them."



MAX KRAUS

The cast of "City of Angels" had two rehearsals a day to prep for the musical.

DON'T MISS THIS

American Faces: A Cultural History of Portraiture and Identity

The new exhibit, which brings together 90 portraits from more than 20 collections, explores and explains Americans' 300-year fascination with images of themselves.

2/17, FRIDAY THROUGH APRIL 30, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

Pipelines, Pipedreams & 'Sovereignty by the Barrel'

This talk by Professor N. Bruce Duthu of Dartmouth College will examine the role of tribal governments as participants in the nation's regime of environmental federalism.

2/16, THURSDAY, 12:30-1:20 P.M., THE ORCHARD-HILLCREST 103, FRANKLIN ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Beyond the Vagina (Monologues) 2017

Come see Middlebury's expanded and evolved adaptation of Eve Ensler's original script "The Vagina Monologues," directed by Sarah Karerat '18. Silent auction benefit for WomenSafe starting at 6:45 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and ASL interpretation on Saturday and Sunday.

2/16-19, THURSDAY-SATURDAY, 7:30 P.M., FRIDAY, 10 P.M., SUNDAY, 2:00 P.M. THE HEPBURN ZOO

College Alumna Publishes Fantasy Novel

By Finne Murphy
Arts & Sciences Editor

One need not look far for snowscapes and subzero temperatures when living in Vermont, but the atmospheric world of a new novel by alumna Katherine Arden '11 offers some consolation: there are colder places to be. Arden's novel, "The Bear and the Nightingale" hit shelves early January, and this entertaining and absorbing fantasy tale has already garnered attention and praise.

["The Bear and the Nightingale"] captures the feeling and the spirit of an icy Russian winter: the setting seems to seep off the page, frigid and foreboding.

The story of "The Bear" unfolds in the forests and villages of medieval Rus' in what is modern-day Russia. From the outset, a sense of otherworldliness and fantasy encroaches on the plot like frost on a window. In the opening chapter, a humble family gathers around a massive stove to hear the fairytales and stories of the spirits of the house and of nature. At first, they seem merely stories. As the story progresses, however, the spirits and demons of Russian folklore come to life and reveal themselves to Vasilisa Petronova, the story's heroine.

Vasya — bold, unusual and brave — pushes against her lot in life, which is to either become a wife and mother or to become a nun. She prefers to wander the forests, honor her household spirits, learn to ride horses, all while rejecting her strictly delineated role in the household and society.

When her widowed father marries a devoutly Christian and severe woman who forbids Vasya from making offerings to appease the household spirits, the whimsical plot begins to take on a disquieting and creepy tone. As Vasya sees the beginnings of tragedy and terror, she must take actions to resist her stepmother and a menacing priest from Moscow bent on instilling fear and piety in the small village. As she fights for what she believes is right, Vasya discovers abilities very few possess and eventually must decide how to save her freezing village.

"The Bear" is Arden's first novel, but she writes with a vivacity and honesty beyond her years. Arden, who majored in Russian and also specialized in French Literature at the College, had not planned to become a writer after college. In order to escape the frigid climates of Vermont and Russia, Arden moved to Hawaii after graduation. She undertook numerous odd-jobs, and worked every job from a horse-tour guide to a Macadamia nut picker. To stave off boredom, Arden decided to try something she had never done before: write a story. She began writing what she knew, namely Russian fairytales. Vasilisa, the young daughter of a Ukrainian family also working on the farm, inspired Arden and became the heroine of her story.

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

"The Bear and the Nightingale" will be the first in a trilogy written by Arden.

Arden worked for six months on her manuscript, researching extensively and getting help and advice from friends and family. Eventually, she wondered if she could publish the work that had begun as a distraction.

She eventually found a literary agent and an editor eager to take her on. Not only did Arden sell her first book, but she also signed on to write two more novels. "The Bear" is to be the first novel of a trilogy following Vasilisa and her adventures in medieval Russia.

The novel itself captures the feeling and the spirit of an icy Russian winter: the setting seems to seep off the page, frigid and foreboding. Further, the themes are as chilling as the Russian January: a sense of distrust and fear combined with the eerie magic. As the pagan clashes with the Christian, conflicts between characters as well as eras arise in a frightening and exciting fashion.

From the outset, a sense of otherworldliness and fantasy encroaches on the plot like frost on a window.

Arden, who was chosen for the spring 2017 Barnes and Noble Great New Writers selection, has written a beautiful and daring tale that benefits from her careful research and clear affection for Russian culture and history. "The Bear and the Nightingale" is the kind of engrossing, ethereal novel that pulls readers in and chills them to the bone — in the best way possible.

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE

Middlebury graduate Katerine Arden '11 is garnering attention for her new novel.

THE REEL CRITIC

MANCHESTER BY THE SEA

By Bilal Khan
Staff Writer

"Manchester by the Sea" is a beautiful movie and Kenneth Lonergan deserves all the credit. Let's hope he gets the Oscar this time around, too.

In the film, Lee Chandler (Casey Affleck) lives in a one-room apartment in Quincy, Mass., and works odd jobs as a handyman for a plumber. Upon learning of his brother's death, he travels to his hometown of Manchester-by-the-Sea to break the news to Patrick (Lucas Hedges), his brother's teenage son. When Lee finds out that his brother has named him Patrick's guardian, he tries to convince the boy to move to Quincy with him. Patrick refuses to leave his life — his school, his band and his two girlfriends — and move in with his uncle. But because it is wintertime, the funeral must be delayed until the ground in the historical cemetery in which Joe (Kyle Chandler) will be buried is in a more favorable condition. Therefore, Lee settles down for a while in the town he abandoned and drives Patrick around as he tries to convince him to move to Quincy.

By the end of it all, we are left feeling as if we have lived through a major life crisis and survived, not because the director makes us feel superhuman, but because he makes us feel human.

This drama takes all the time it needs to develop its very real and very human characters. There are plenty of flashbacks, and the plot transitions so fluidly between the past and the present that you can forgive yourself for being confused for a while in the beginning. There is a powerful, heart-wrenching climax, and even though the entire first half builds up to it, you never quite expect it to hit you so blatantly. The pace is slow — the movie is two and a half hours long — but make no mistake; Lonergan never loses your attention. Each scene and shot both develops Lee Chandler's character and dutifully creates the accurate and slow, but never dry rhythm of human affairs. By the end of it all, we are left feeling as if we have lived through a major life crisis and survived, not because the director makes us feel superhuman, but because he makes us feel human.

Affleck is impassive and inscrutable, and his marvelous subtleties — his pauses, his stares, that calmness in his eyes just before he punches a guy in a bar — allow us to sense his trauma. Lee Chandler is a broken man who has built a wall around him to keep his demons out, but every so often they find their way in and he swears at a bitchy old lady or punches a random guy at the bar. Affleck understands the rhythm of his role and nails it in the build-up and the climax, and when the walls finally seem to come down we cannot help but fall in love with him.

Anticipation, excitement, climax, awe – they are all there, but not in the exaggerated manner we have become used to in mainstream film. The tragedy is revealed at what feels like a real-life pace, and therefore needs no exaggeration.

Manchester by the Sea is nothing like the modern-day cinematic rollercoaster. Anticipation, excitement, climax, awe — they are all there, but not in the exaggerated manner we have become used to in mainstream film. The tragedy is revealed at what feels like a real-life pace, and therefore needs no exaggeration. And the movie is not all sad; there are bits of humor here and there, and the amazing chemistry between Affleck and Hedges ensures that they don't miss their mark.

All in all, "Manchester by the Sea" is a great filmmaking achievement. In addition to earning Lonergan and Affleck the recognition they truly deserve, let's hope it manages to influence more filmmakers out there. We all want to see more beautiful movies, do we not?

BOOKING IT

JONATHAN STRANGE & MR. NORRELL
BY SUSANNA CLARKE

By Gabrielle Owens
Senior Columnist

The phrase "wizards in England" these days almost infallibly conjures up the image of a certain black haired boy with glasses. However, in 2004, a woman named Susanna Clarke released a monstrously large novel called "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell." It is the story of two magicians in England in 1806, caught in the middle of the long war with Napoleon. An entirely different take on the idea of wizards and magic in society from "Harry Potter," the novel is as intriguing as it is meticulous in its world-building, bursting with detail and ingenuity.

Clarke's England is built on a history of magic and the legend of the Raven King — a story reminiscent of King Arthur, England's ancient and greatest king who will one day return. as the story goes — that ruled over both the human and the faerie realms. When the story begins, however, magicians have studied nothing but the theory of magic for centuries, their profession confined to collecting old and increasingly inaccurate books and meeting every so often in order to argue about them. Until, that is, Mr. Norrell appears and proclaims himself a practical magician — in other words, one who can actually perform magic. He quickly gains notoriety in London and around the country, with everyone clamoring for his attention from the generals seeking an advantage over Napoleon to housewives hoping for an exceptionally interesting dinner party.

Mr. Norrell eventually gains an apprentice: Jonathan Strange. The two men have wildly different methodologies and ideas about magic. Where Mr. Norrell is an old man who spent years preparing and practicing magic before he revealed his abilities to the world and is loath to attempt any sort of magic he has not thoroughly researched, Jonathan Strange is young, eager and nearly reckless in his desire to test and explore his abilities. Mr. Norrell is painfully socially inept, relying on two con men who volunteer their services to help him respond to the flood of requests for his attention, while Strange is comfortably at home in high society. Mr. Norrell believes magic should be kept secret, hoarding every book on the matter he can find to keep them away from the public, while Strange is anxious to share their knowledge and discoveries with the world. Nevertheless, the two of them find in each other an intellectual equal, someone who can challenge and encourage them and with whom they can actually advance their ideas through teamwork.

This clash of personalities is a large part of what makes the book worth reading. Both Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell are unpleasantly egotistical and greedy people, and they run the risk of becoming distasteful to read about, although they are indisputably interesting as characters. Pitted against each other, though, their dynamic draws you in and keeps you invested in the outcomes of their work. It also pushes you to consider your position within their sometimes-polar-opposite ideologies, especially with the argument that eventually causes a schism in their relationship: whether the general public should be allowed to know anything about magic.

It is a testament to the attentiveness of Clarke's world building that as a reader you can feel and understand the immediacy and importance of a debate with no real-world relevance. She works magic into every crevice of her world's history, creating legends and realistic inconsistencies and uncertainties around stories such as the Raven King.

An entirely different take on the idea of wizards and magic in society from "Harry Potter," the novel is as intriguing as it is meticulous in its world-building, bursting with detail and ingenuity.

Setting her novel during the Industrial Revolution lends a great deal of symbolism to the development of a new world and the advancement of society, generally symbolized by Strange, versus the old world clinging to the security of its known habits and history, symbolized of course by Mr. Norrell.

The book is not exclusively about Strange and Norrell: there are half a dozen major characters whose perspectives we follow at different points in the book. Mr. Norrell performs one act of magic near the beginning of the story whose consequences spiral out of control and later come back to haunt him. Clarke points us to the ways in which Strange and Norrell's magic can have a disastrous impact on regular people who never had any desire to be involved, refusing to glorify their magic, and yet she also shows the good it can do. Strange and Norrell both struggle over the course of the book with the morality of their magic and the sense that they have a legacy to defend by practicing it, while Clarke is determined to show that magic is nothing more than a dangerous tool.

As mentioned above, "Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell" is a monstrously large novel, ranging between 800 and 1000 pages depending on the edition. It is decidedly not an adventurous romp through a magical story, but rather a meticulous — though still often thrilling — mysterious and compelling journey through an imaginative history. If you've got a long time to sit down and do some reading, this is an excellent choice. Find it at the library at go/bookingit.

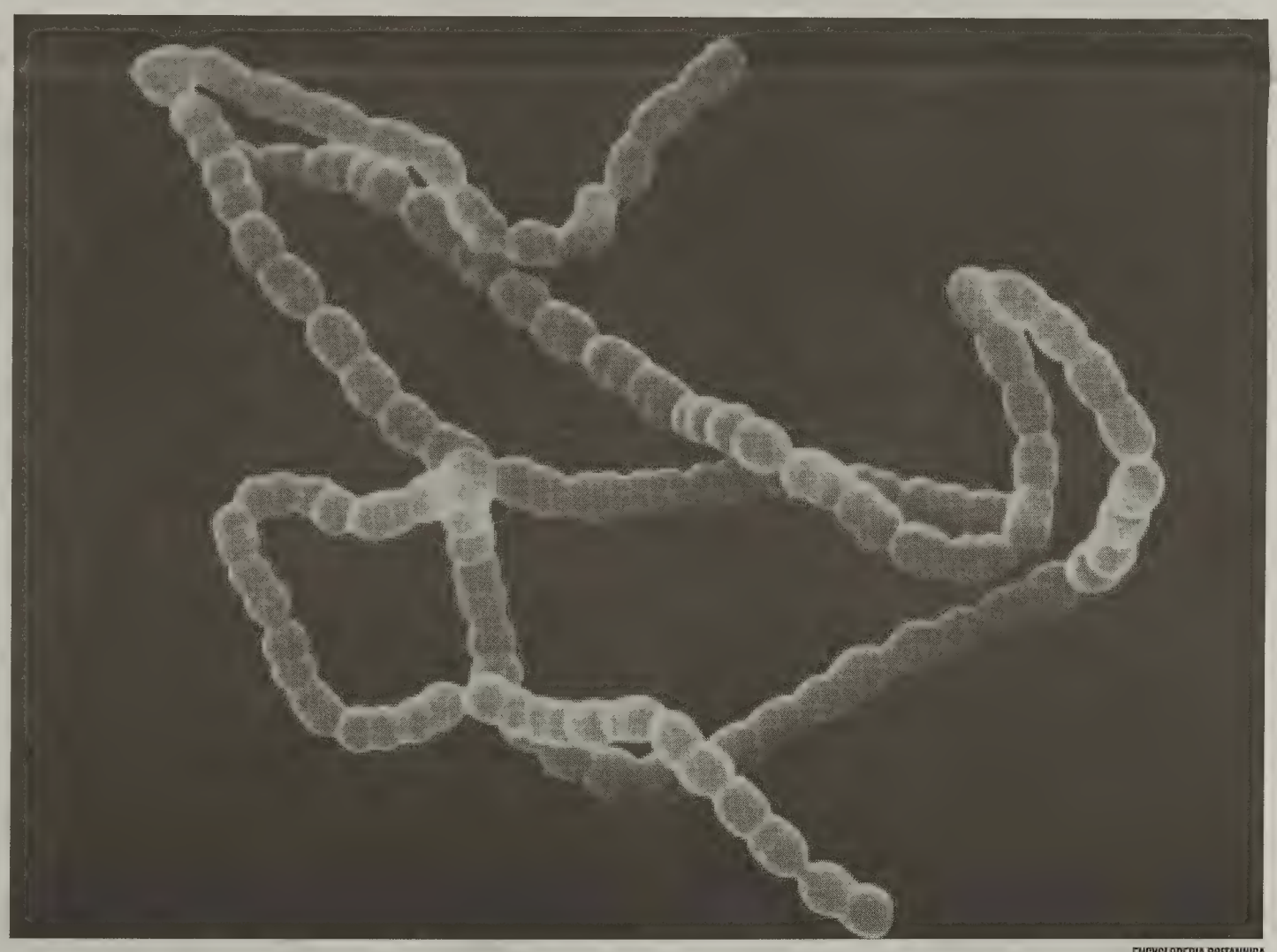
Graduating Febs Present Their Research

By Sabina Haque
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty alike gathered in McCardell Bicentennial Hall 220 on Monday, Jan. 30 to hear thesis talks by Richard Brach '16.5 and Andrew Holtz '16.5. The two graduating Febs, who were both Molecular Biology & Biochemistry and German double majors, worked in Heinz-Given Professor of the Pre-medical Sciences Grace Spatafora's lab, and each gave a 30-minute presentation about their research methods and findings. The Spatafora Lab notoriously and fearlessly focuses its efforts on SloR, a protein expressed by the bacterial species *Streptococcus mutans*. SloR plays a role in expressing genes that allow *S. mutans* to colonize and persist in human oral cavities, ultimately causing dental decay.

Professor Spatafora gave a brief introduction in which she spoke of how Brach and Holtz's work shifted the focus of her lab's research from a transcriptional to post-translational analysis. Holtz then took the floor, walking the audience through his work in the Spatafora Lab with infectious energy.

Holtz's thesis focused on the ATP-dependent protease ClpP and two of its associated molecular chaperones, ClpE and ClpX. Using bioinformatic approaches to discern SloR-associated gene expression patterns, he found that these members of the Clp protease family bind to and degrade SloR, thereby reducing its ability to enable *S. mutans* virulence. Accompanied by animated PowerPoint slides that laid out complex concepts such as gene regulation and protein degradation, Holtz intriguingly imparted the findings of his senior thesis research. Following his graduation, Holtz will spend time in Sierra Leone teaching DNA sequencing techniques, before moving to the Max Planck Institute in Munich, Germany to continue his passion for research.



ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

The Spatafora Lab studies *Streptococcus mutans*, a bacterium involved with dental decay.

***The Spatafora Lab notoriously and fearlessly focuses its efforts on SloR, a protein expressed by the bacterial species* Streptococcus mutans.**

After the audience asked Holtz several clarifying questions, it was Brach's turn to present. Brach spoke about his work identifying the function of a region of chromosomal DNA in *S. mutans*. He predicted that the genetic region would code for a small regulatory RNA, a genetic molecule that mostly remains a mystery in the scientific world. Brach created two mutant strains of S. mutans by deleting two different pieces of the chromosomal region and testing their ability to form bacterial communities called biofilms. He found that one of the mutant strains of *S. mutans* showed a reduced ability to create biofilms in sucrose-deficient conditions, implying that the small regulatory RNA coded by that region functions in cellular adhesion. Brach will continue to work in the Spatafora Lab after graduation in hopes of publishing some of his work, and plans to go to medical school in 2018.

Sung proudly in the language of microbes, Brach and Holtz each delivered their own memorable swan song to celebrate the culmination of their senior thesis work at the College. They will both accompany Professor Spatafora to a conference in San Francisco this March to present their findings to renowned scientists.

PERFORMING ARTS SPOTLIGHT: MORGENSTERN PIANO TRIO

By Connor Forrest
Contributing Columnist

In this snowy time, it is important to make space for activities that balance the work and defrost the toes. According to interviews with peers, attending events in the Mahaney Center for the Arts not only decreases students' stress levels and increases overall happiness, but also strengthens their sense of community and intellectual curiosity. As the semester picks up steam, check in periodically to find some relief.

For instance, the Morgenstern Piano Trio, named after a 19th-century German poet, is coming to Middlebury this Wednesday, Feb. 22. *The Washington Post* has lauded this young yet accomplished trio for "unanimity, polished technique and musical imagination."

Trio members Catherine Klipfel (piano), Stefan Hempel (violin) and Emanuel Wehse (cello) first met as students at the Folkwang Conservatory in Essen, Germany. After only two short years of working together, the trio emerged with top prizes and awards. Their excellence catapulted them onto the United States music scene, with performances at Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, New York's Carnegie Hall and other concerts across the country.

Robert Battey of *The Washington Post* wrote: "The Morgenstern's clarity of musical detail and technical excellence made this a night to remember. This was one of the best concerts I've heard all season."

The concert's program will include Germaine Tailleferre's ravishingly beautiful Piano Trio, initially written in 1916–1917 and revised six decades later, Maurice Ravel's Baroque-inspired Piano Trio in A Minor and Vermont composer Pierre Jalbert's Piano Trio No. 2, written specifically for the Morgenstern Trio. The concert is sponsored by the Performing Arts Series, and is part of the Nelson Chamber Music Series.

Earning widespread notice for his richly colored and superbly crafted scores, Jalbert has developed a musical language that is engaging, expressive and deeply personal. Among his many honors are the Rome Prize, the BBC Masterprize, the biennially awarded Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's 2007 Stoeger Award "in recognition of significant contributions to the chamber music repertory" and a 2010 award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Jalbert describes his second piano trio as "two movements of contrasting character. A couple of ideas inspired each movement: the first was the thought of a desert landscape at night, desolate and calm; the second came from an incident driving home in Houston ... These were simply starting points and the music itself eventually developed on its own terms." Jalbert will offer a free pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. in Mahaney Center for the Arts 125.

The Morgenstern Piano Trio's concert will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mahaney Center for the Arts' Robison Hall. Tickets are only $6 for students.

IRENE ZANDEL

The Morgenstern Piano Trio will be performing at the College on Feb. 22. at the Mahaney Center for the Arts.

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ALPINE AND NORDIC SKI HURDLE UNH FOR A THIRD PLACE FINISH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

ter his first carnival podium finish.

Cone and Colin Hayes '17 were leading the pack together after the first run, but didn't make it to the finish line in their second runs on what was an icy and unusually technical course compared to the rest of the GS circuit. Hayes, however, finished his weekend out strongly with a fourth place finish in slalom with Riley Plant '18 and Chris McKenna '17 scoring 15th and 21st places, respectively.

For the nordic skiers at the Trapp Lodge, Cate Brams '18 got on the podium with a fifth place result in the women's freestyle sprint while Evan Weinman '18's 10th place was best for the men. On the second day of the carnival in the 10K men's races, Sam Wood '19 put up another great score with his ninth place finish in 30:52. The top finisher for the women was Feldman in 15th place.

Last weekend at the tail end of February break, the nordic and alpine teams continued hitting the slopes at the Dartmouth carnival, taking home their best finish of the winter in third place. Cone continued his dominance in his final season by winning the GS race and coming in second in slalom, just missing a perfect two-win weekend. Close behind again in GS and slalom was Hayes in sixth place in both events, just missing the podium. Bartlett, like Cone, kept putting up stellar GS finishes, this time with a top three result while Calgani and Katie Utter '20 followed in 12th and 16th places, separated by just 0.6 seconds. Atkins was the top skier in slalom for the women in 15th place after a 1:44.68 two run time.

The nordic teams had 3 x 5K freestyle relay events on Friday, with the men's team comprised of Wood, Luban and Weinman finishing sixth overall with a combined time of 37:35. Luban finished out his top-10 weekend with a ninth place result in the 10K classic event and Brams scored well for the women in 12th place on the 5K course at Craftsbury Nordic Center.

Home field advantage should be a big factor this weekend as the Panthers training sites of the Snow Bowl and Rikert Nordic center offer a familiar foe to our skiers.

"It's great to see everyone's skiing coming together," said Calgani, "and our results are starting to show that. To say we are stoked is an understatement! The Snow Bowl is our hill and I can't wait to ski in front of the home crowd."

The carnival is this Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17 and 18, and runs from 9:30 a.m. to the early afternoon on both days — it should be noted that this is the best and only opportunity to see our skiers locally. Last year's showing from the student body needs to be replicated and to see our skiers vie for their first carnival win in the event is something that the team will look forward to.

SWIMMING AND DIVING HOSTS MIDD INVITE, WOMEN PLACE FOURTH AT NESCACS

By Emily Bustard
Sports Editor

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving hosted over 230 athletes at the Middlebury Invitational on Jan. 27-28 in preparation for the championship portion of the season, which began for the women's team at Bowdoin College last weekend, Feb. 10-12; they would go on to place fourth out of 11 at NESCAC Championships.

While team scores were not calculated at the Midd Invite, the meet allowed the Panthers to compete against men and women from Tufts and Williams, as well as women from Springfield and the University of Vermont.

"We have 20 swimmers and one diver who [shaved] and [tapered] for [the Midd Invite as] their end of the year meet, so [their hope was to] hit all best times and end the season on the right note," said Head Coach Bob Rueppel.

"I think this year we've learned how to swim fast when we don't feel well; so it's not the feel that gets us through the race, it's just being intense and racing."

This strategy seems to have paid off for Middlebury that weekend in both individual and relay events.

Claire Treesh '17 and Hannah Kredich '20 each touched the wall first for the women in the 100 backstroke (59.45) and 1,650 free (18.31.92), respectively.

Additionally, co-captain Masami Cookson '17 placed third in the 1000 free (11.07.84), while Stephanie Andrews '18 (24.49) and Liza MacCowatt '19 (25.34) swept first and second in the 50 free and Frances VanderMeer '20 (53.19, first) and Grace Stimson '19 (53.97, third) dominated the 100 free.

Maya Gomez '20's success in the 100 breaststroke (1:05.67, first) was mirrored on the men's side as Will Pannos '20 swam the same race in 1:00.40 for second place.

Other top personal finishes for the men came from Will Greene '19 on the one-meter diving board (479.95 points, first), Connor McCormick '18 in the 500 free (4.45.99, second) and Brendan Leech '19 in the 200 IM (1:58.90, third).

In relays, Middlebury came second in the men's 400 free (3:15.01, Leech, Noel Antonisse '17, Michael McGean '17 and McCormick) and medley (3:36.86, Justin Cho '17, David Hogan '17, Pannos and Charles Quinn '20), as well as in the men's 800 free relay (7:11.17, McGean, Jack Dowling '18, Andrew Grant '17 and Morgan Matsuda '19).

The women dominated the 200 free relay (1:38.94, Gomez, Kristin Karpowicz '19, Stimson and Andrews), the 200 medley relay (1:50.80, VanderMeer, Nora O'Leary '17, Gomez and Catherine Pollack '19), and the 800 free relay (7:50.85, Andrews, Caitlin Carroll '17, Alaina Pribis '19 and Morgan Burke '17).

The swimmers who finished their season at the Middlebury Invitational "[provided] such a fire and excitement," said Coach Rueppel. "So it's a great blueprint for the other 48 [swimmers who also compete at NESCACs] to see in front of them."

When it came to the Women's NESCAC Championships last weekend, Middlebury tallied 1,174 points, enough for a fourth place finish behind Williams (1,856), Amherst (1,367) and Conn. College (1,268.5). After trailing Bates closely on the first two days of the meet, the Panther women finally surpassed the Polar Bears by 14.5 points on the final day to earn fourth.

"I've definitely pushed them to another level training-wise because I thought they could handle that, and they have," said Coach Rueppel on how he prepared the women to maintain last year's standing in the NESCAC while recording eight NCAA 'B' cut times.

On day one, Gomez, Burke, Isabel Wyer '18 and VanderMeer placed fourth in the 200 free relay. The group swam a 1:34.77 in the event finals, but their fastest swim came in the preliminaries: their 1:34.73 in that round set a new school record and was good enough for an NCAA 'B' cut time.

Individually, Gomez claimed the 50 breast title with her pool-record setting time of 28.93. Celia Ripple '20 touched the wall just 0.73 seconds behind Gomez to place fourth (29.66) in the 50 breast.

Then VanderMeer tied for third in the 50 back final (26.68), and fourth in the 50 fly (25.60). Burke and Wyer earned more points for the Panthers by finishing eight in the 50 free final (24.16) and fourth in the 500 free (4:57.79), respectively.

As a team, Wyer, Ripple, VanderMeer and Burke's second-place swim in the 400 medley relay (3:47.85) not only qualifies as a NCAA 'B' cut time, but also broke a school record by 1.28 seconds.

The next day, Wyer became the only non-Williams swimmer to win an event with her NCAA 'B' cut performance in the 200 free (1:50.85). Burke swam a 1:53.09 in the same event final, earning her seventh place.

Jessica Lipton '20 got tenth in the 1,000 free (10:36.43), and two Panthers made the top ten in the 100 breast: Gomez (1:03.78, fifth) and O'Leary (1:06.12, tenth). Gomez's 1:03.38 swim in the preliminary heat of the 100 breast marked Middlebury's fourth NCAA 'B' cut time of the meet.

The Panthers recorded two more 'B' cut times before the end of that day when they placed fifth in both the 200 medley relay (1:45.08, VanderMeer, Ripple, Gomez and Andrews), and the 800 free relay (7:37.39, Burke, Karpowicz, Andrews and Wyer).

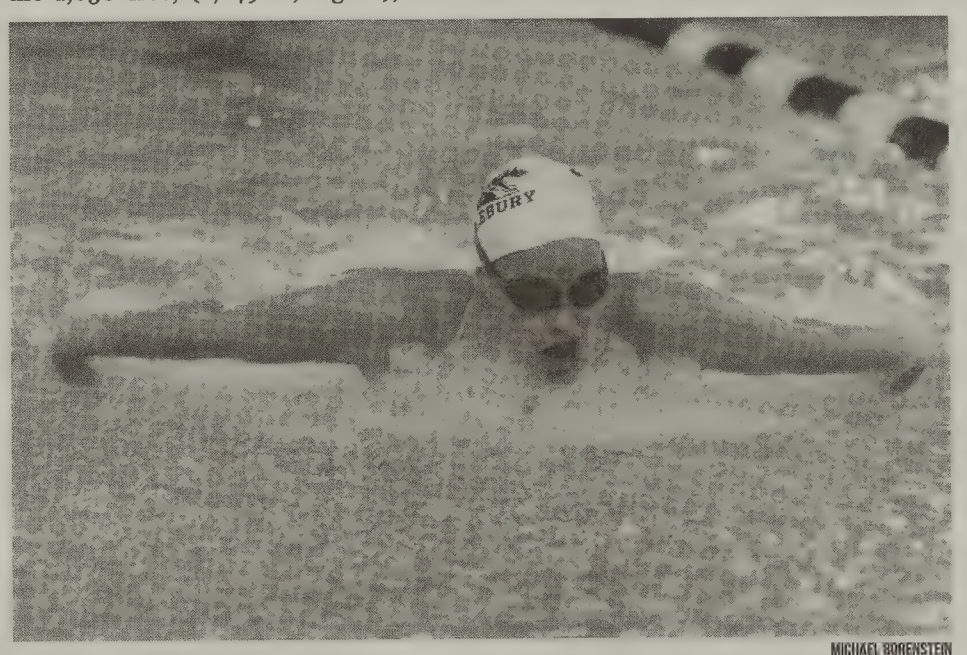
Key finishes by Angela Riggins '19 in the 1,650 free, (17.49.16, eighth), VanderMeer and Burke in the 100 free (52.27 for sixth, and 52.28 for seventh) and Ripple in the 200 breast (2:23.18, 10th) helped Middlebury overtake Bates for fourth place on the final day of the meet.

O'Leary, who broke Jamie Hillas '14's school record by 1.12 seconds in the prelims of the 200 breast (2:19.09, NCAA 'B' cut), swam a 2:19.97 in the event finals to earn key fourth place points for the Panthers.

Elissa DeNunzio dove to sixth place in the three-meter competition (392.25 points) on Sunday to compliment her eighth place finish in on one-meter board (380.15 points) back on the first day, and VanderMeer, Wyer, Karpowicz and Burke finished the meet strong in the 400 free relay finals with another NCAA 'B' cut time of 3:28.95 (fifth).

"[The team has] really committed to the training program and to each other," said Coach Rueppel of his swimmers this season, "and you can't have it any better than that."

Men's Swimming and Diving will travel to Wesleyan this weekend (Feb. 17-19) for their own NESCAC championship meet.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Grace Stimson '19 swims the third leg of the 400 medley relay at the Middlebury Invitational. The Panthers' relay team of Celia Ripple '20, Jennifer Koide '17, Stimson and Maya Gomez '20 finished second behind Williams in the event.

Indoor Track and Field Builds Momentum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

1,000-meter run (2:31.41).

Lastly, on Jan. 27 and 28 the men were able to win the Middlebury Invitational to remain undefeated at home for the season. They won a total of seven events, while the women came in first six times en route to a second-place overall finish. Maddie Pronovost '17 had herself a career day, setting new school marks in the pentathlon (3,367 points), the 60-meter hurdles (9.04), and running the third leg of the record-setting 4x200-meter relay that finished in 1:46.84 (Elizabeth Walkes '20, Ellie Greenberg '20, and Edmondson ran the other legs). Helene Rowland '20 added some distance to the school shot put record with a winning throw of 40'11".

Coach Beatty felt good about the team's chances as the Panthers prepare for the New England DIII Championships next weekend.

"We want to do well as a team in the New England meet," he said. "We can do that if we can score well in many of the 19 events of indoor track and field. We are not very deep as a team, but hope to have at least one strong athlete in each event. We have some very strong field event athlete in the jumps and throws and I looking forward to seeing them having strong performances along with the runners."

The men's side will be hosted at Tufts while the women return to MIT this Friday and Saturday.

BY THE NUMB3RS

0.02% *Tom Brady's approval rating in Atlanta following Super Bowl LI.*

14 *Goals by women's hockey in their doubleheader at home against Colby.*

9:46.45 *The new National DIII Indoor Distance Medley Relay record, set by Nathan Hill '20, Alex Nichols '17, James Mulliken '18, and Kevin Serrao '18 at Boston University.*

31 *Points scored by Matt St. Amour against Amherst*

MANDIGO'S EXCELLENCE UNPARALLELED IN WOMEN'S HOCKEY

By Robert Erickson
Sports Editor

Let's say you've been coaching Division III Women's Ice Hockey for almost 29 years, and you're pretty dang good at it.

How good?

Well, at 532 and counting, you've won more games than anyone else in the history of DIII Hockey. Your win percentage is north of .750.

In the last 21 years, you've led your team to 19 or more victories a total of 19 times. You haven't had a losing season since 1994-95, before a good number of your current players were even born.

When your team joined the Eastern College Athletic Conference in 1995-96, they were the best in the conference six years in a row. Since they moved over to the NESCAC in the following year, they've won the conference title eight times. And they've only missed the championship game four times.

The American Women's College Hockey Alliance, a nationwide organization, held two DIII tournaments in 2001 and 2002. You won them both. And since the NCAA began organizing nationwide women's hockey tournaments in 2002, you and your squad have made it to the quarterfinals 11 times, advanced to the semis eight of those years, moved on to the finals in five of them, and won the whole tournament three times.

You've been named the ECAC coach of the year twice and the NESCAC coach of the year three times. On top of that, you've won AHCA honors for national coach of the year no fewer than three times.

You're Middlebury women's hockey head coach Bill Mandigo, so when you're asked what your greatest accomplishment as a coach is, you've got a long list of answers from which to choose. It won't be easy to narrow down. How do you respond?

Easy.

"We've had a lot of good teams here," you say, "and a lot of good players. But I think what I'm most proud of is the people who leave here and what they do with the rest of their lives."

After all, it's never just been about wins and losses for you. Sure, they're great. They're part of what keeps hundreds of fans from the college community and the town of Middlebury packing the bleachers in Kenyon Arena — even upwards of 1,000, like you had for the NESCAC championship game that the team won last year.

But as the coach, you know that Panther Hockey is more than the stat sheets or the record books would indicate. Or rather, the stats and the records are a product of what's really at the core of Panther Hockey, the storied program that currently draws players from as far as Kansas and North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"The game is growing," you explain; "it's becoming a worldwide recruiting venue ... it's not just the New England prep school recruiting base," like it was when you started. "It's become broad, even global for some schools."

And yet every year, you and your team are at or near the head of the pack. What's your secret, Coach Mandigo? How did you crack the code? Are you running better, more complex systems than the competition? Do you have a knack for finding the perfect line combinations? Are you a recruiting wizard? Is it the training? The facilities? Something in the water?

Maybe. It's possible — no, likely — that all of that has something to do with it.

But there's something else, too. Something that you point to right away when asked about how the Middlebury women's hockey team has been able to stay so good for so long.

"I think that the people who play [at Middlebury], they have a strong passion for the game," you say. "I think that they play because they love to play: it's something that they've done and that they've done for a long time."

"That's the stuff that's stayed the same: the kids with the passion, they want to get better and they want to learn, they want to play the right way ... From my first team to now, that's always been the same."

To take a guess, you might not even think of yourself as the winningest coach in the history of DIII women's hockey. Hearing the way you talk about your teams, your players, your philosophy—you don't really see yourself as the primary reason for the success you've had. It all starts with the players, and you understand that. So you'd probably just say you've happened to coach the teams that have won the most games.

Of course, you likely haven't even spent enough time thinking about your record to see things like that. You're just focused on your players — the young but quickly-maturing adults that have been placed under your guidance. Guidance — not leadership. Because the way you see it, you're not responsible for their success. You're responsible for helping them find their own success.

"Honestly," you defer, "I think we give a lot of ownership to the kids. We want them to do the right thing — whether it's on the rink when we're practicing or playing games, or academically, or socially, we expect them to do the right thing."

After all, Middlebury women's hockey is bigger than just the school or the sport. You've got a phrase that you use to remind your players of where they should keep their eyes focused: Four for Forty.

"Four years here for the next forty years of your life."

Like you said, Coach, it's not just about the time your players spend on the ice. Panther hockey is a code of ethic, a way of life.

> ***"Four for forty: four years here for the next forty years of your life."***
>
> COACH BILL MANDIGO

And it works because your players buy into it. Your captain Carly Watson '17 described her Middlebury career highlight in a way that would make you proud: "The most meaningful aspects of my career with Middlebury women's ice hockey have been the friendships I've made and the skills I've learned while being on a team."

"From commitment to communication, work ethic to leadership, there are skills that I've learned while being part of a team that are impossible to learn in a classroom."

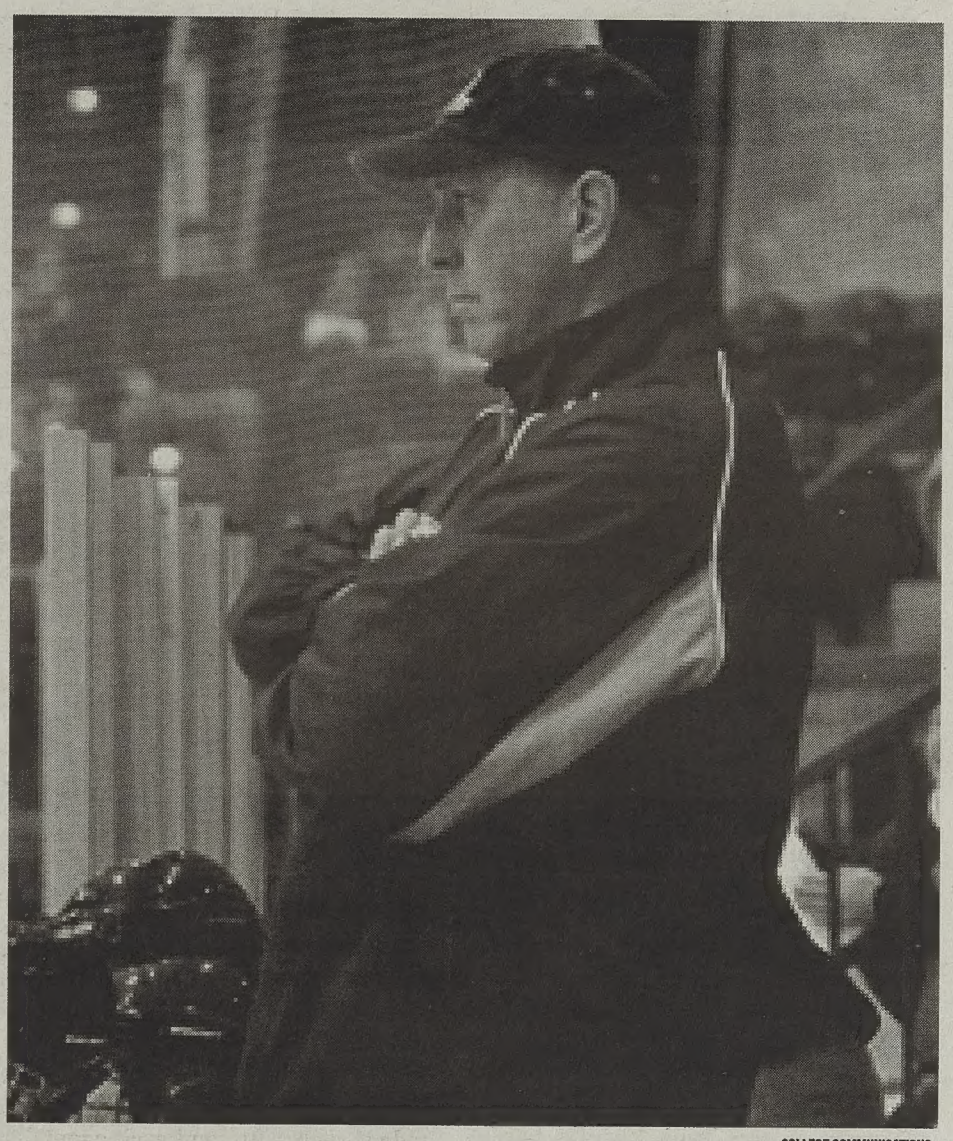
Your players don't leave what they learn at the rink when they leave, Coach. In fact, you make sure that they take it with them when they give back to the community that's been so supportive of them. Not that you hold their hands through it, of course.

"Our kids to a great job in the community volunteering," you say. "There are all kinds of things that they do and they run it themselves. It's handed down from older to younger, and [the older players] teach the younger and newer ones: this is what we do, this is why we do it."

What is it your team does, exactly? The list is almost as extensive as your resumé: your players mentor in Ripton and Cornwall every week on Fridays; they help out at the Charter House on Sundays; in the fall, they get their hands dirty at a potato farm in the area; if they're not at any of those places, they might be helping out at the local teen center.

And the community engagement doesn't stop there. Residents of Middlebury and the surrounding area notice what your players are doing. They notice. They appreciate it. And they return the favor.

Elizabeth Wulf '18 gushed about the impact the community has on your team. "We're actually one of the few programs," she said, "that has a group called 'The Friends of Panther Hockey' who are members from the community (our parents are part of it as well). During the games they sell raffle tickets, they sell merchandise ... and every year they'll host a few dinners for us, they give us a little gift — this year we got scarves — they make us programs, and they're really involved in fundraising. So that's an unbelievable support system and we're extremely lucky to have them."



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

Women's Hockey head coach Bill Mandigo watches his players compete at a home contest in Kenyon Arena. Mandigo has the most wins in the history of Division III women's hockey.

"And you get certain people from town who are always at the games. They'll be there an hour and a half before the game watching, they'll know a lot about the team —t hey know pretty much every player. We just actually had a 'Skate with the Panthers' event this past weekend and a lot of them were there too ... So we love to work with the community and help out, and we get some great support as well."

> ***"I would say I've never loved playing hockey more than I have here - just every day, competing for the same thing, having only one goal in mind and being on a team that's unified, like a family.""***
>
> ELIZABETH WULF '18

As you know, Coach, the product of all this is a Middlebury Women's Hockey team that actually stretches far beyond the current roster of 22. It doesn't stop at the coaches or even the training staff. It's a tradition that encompasses the larger Middlebury community: current students and professors as well as fans from the town. It's a culture that reaches backwards and forwards in time, comprising each and every player that's ever passed through the program as well as the future Panthers who grow up watching them, coming to camps in August or skating with the players after the game.

Your players know it, too.

"Just to wear that jersey and that 'M' every day is a privilege in itself," said Wulf, "and every day I'm just honored to be on the ice.

"I would say I've never loved playing hockey more than I have here — just every day, competing for the same thing, having only one goal in mind and being on a team that unified, like a family.

"You're representing not just yourself, but players of the past and the program in general."

Nevertheless, Coach Mandigo, you said you were completely taken by surprise when hundreds of alumnae and community members showed up a few years ago to celebrate your success and that of the team. Should you have been? When you stop to look around yourself — at the program of which you've been such an integral part for so long — does it come as a shock that so many of them still felt so connected to what's been built here?

Then again, it's not really that surprising that you were caught off guard. When asked if you had any regrets at this point in your illustrious career, your response speaks to your humility and commitment to your players above all else — not just as players, but as people, too.

"You know, I think it's never been about the wins and losses," you say. "I think it's been about relationships. If I had to do it over again, I think maybe it would be to spend a little bit more time on relationships."

"It's easy to have good relationships with people that like you or know you, but sometimes it's hard — with 24 or 25 kids on the team it's hard to know everyone the same, to have the same relationship with all 25 players. And when you've done it for 29 years, it's a lot of players."

"So I think if I had to go back, what I would say to my younger self is to find time to get to know everyone a little bit better. Not that I don't know them — but I think that would be one of the things that I would say to myself."

That's a response we could've expected. But Coach, we could hardly expect for you to have done much more than you already have.

Count in Men's Hockey for a Couple Wins

By Claire Messersmith
Contributing Writer

During back-to-back home games last weekend, as J-Term came to a close, the Middlebury men's hockey team won for the third time in four games as they defeated Wesleyan 1-0 on Feb. 3. The team fell to Trinity 11-3 on Feb. 4 and faced Williams in a double-header this past weekend, Feb. 10-11, the first at home and the second on the road. Though falling to first-placed Williams in the NESCAC, the Panthers will ambitiously enter the final week of the regular season with two upcoming away games at Hamilton and then Amherst.

Andrew Neary '17 netted the one-stride wrist into the back of the net in the middle of the second period that drove Middlebury's 1-0 win over Wesleyan on Feb. 3. Neary's goal marked his first of the season, and came from Danny Jacobs '20 behind the net, after he made a few moves and created some space.

Goalie Stephen Klein '18 also earned his second-straight shut out, stopping 135 of the last 138 shots taken against him.

Back out on the ice on Saturday, Feb. 4 at Kenyon Arena, Middlebury fell to the Trinity Bantams 11-3. The Bantams scored four goals in the first and second periods, and three in the third. Trinity's first goal, 1:34 into the game, was answered 10 minutes later by a goal from Vincent Gisonti '18, but Trinity responded right back. Gisonti scored his goal off a breakaway after a pass from Travis Stephens '17, and lifted a backhanded goal into the back of the net. Frank Cosolito netted his first collegiate goal six minutes into the final period, and Gisonti scored his second of the game with five minutes on the clock.

This past weekend, Middlebury fell to Williams in back-to-back battles on Feb. 10 and 11, 3-0 and 4-1, respectively. During the first game of the NESCAC weekend series, Middlebury's Mitchell Allen '20, Jacobs, and Trevor Turnbull '20 almost pulled off 3 separate scoring opportunities, each taking place in the final minutes of each respective period. Allen took a pass from across the ice from Stephens, and his shot required a sprawling save from Williams goalie Michael Pinios. Jacobs weaved his way towards the net next in the second period, yet was again denied by Pinios.

A rebound shot by David Belluche '18 hit the right post seconds later.

In the third and final period, Turnbull just hit the outside of the net in his attempt to get on the board, but the game closed out 3-0.

Placed first in the NESCAC, Williams scored two early goals in the first three minutes of the game, lifting themselves past Middlebury after concluding with an eventual final goal in the third period.

In their final game before the spring semester began, Middlebury fell 4-1 on the road and back against Williams. Greg Conrad '17 put Middlebury on the board with a goal, scoring two minutes into the third period. Conrad scored a goal off of a quick reaction to a rebound of a shot from Brendan Dawson '20, who carried the puck down the left wing before taking the first shot.

Middlebury goalie Brian Ketchabaw stopped all 28 shots he faced on Saturday night.

Men's hockey, now 3-17-2 overall, will be right back out on the road this weekend. The team will face Hamilton on Friday night, Feb. 17, and travel to Amherst to play Saturday, Feb. 18.

Women's Hockey Clobbers Colby

By Sebastian Sanchez
Sports Editor

While the rest of the student body returned to campus from February Break, the Women's Hockey team had a successful run over the weekend, totaling 14 goals in two games against the Colby Mules.

On Feb. 11, Middlebury grabbed the lead within the first three minutes of the game. A shot from Victoria Laven '17 was differed by Colby's goalie but Maddie Winslow '18 found the puck off the rebound and gave the Panthers a 1-0 advantage.

While the Panthers had three power-play opportunities, they could not capitalize on either and headed into the second period up by one. Middlebury, however, kept their foot on the pedal as they scored three goals in the next 20 minutes. Janka Hlinka '18 received a centering touch from Rachel St. Clair '19 and Hlinka buried the feed into the back of Colby's net to extend their lead to two.

Minnesota native Anna Zumwinkle '20 scored her first career goal in the 15th minute of the second period off a feed by Katherine Jackson '19. Zumwinkle was not finished and her second of the game came three minutes later on a five-on-three power play. Remarkably, Colby was unable to pierce through the Panther's defense as Middlebury outshot the Mules 31-0 in the game's first half hour.

Heading into the third period Middlebury led by four and their powerful offense continued to break through Colby's defenses. The Panthers added a pair of goals — one by Laven, who netted her first of the year and Kelly Sherman '17, who netted her third of the year on a break-a-way to seal the deal.

Middlebury sent Colby off the ice with zero goals and only five shots on goal and headed into Saturday's game looking to continue their style of play.

"I told them that we needed to keep playing our game and doing the jobs we know how to do," said Head Coach Bill Mandigo. "The team that loses on the first night always plays harder on the second and we expected a great effort from Colby."

Middlebury's offensive seemed to carry their momentum through the night and into Saturday's game. Within the first ten minutes, Middlebury had scored three times. The first goal had an element of luck as Sherman's shot from the left side of the ice hit another player and floated over Colby's goalie. Two minutes later, on a power play, Elizabeth Wulf '18 flicked the puck to Winslow, camped out in the left post, who buried it in the back of the net. At the seven-minute mark, the Panthers grew the lead to three when Lizzie Sheline '20 gathered a rebound from Hlinka and sent it through.

The merciless scoring continued in the second stanza as Winslow scored yet another goal and at the 12-minute mark, Jessica Young '18 scored an unassisted goal for her team-leading 12th of the season. Colby had an opportunity to score, but goalie Lin Han '20 who has been having a remarkable season, slid to her right for a great pad save. Winslow completed the hat trick in the 18th minute and 15 seconds later, Jackson scored to give the Panthers a 7-0 edge.

Colby got on the board for the first time over the weekend eluding a shutout for the second night in the row. Sheline scored the final goal of the game giving Middlebury the 8-1 win and pushing the Panthers into a first place tie with the Hamilton Continentals.

It could have been easy for the Panthers to lose sight of their focus on the second night, but Coach Mandingo pushed the team to stick to their game.

"He told us to continue to play the right way and play our game," Wulf said. "He wanted us to move the puck and take good shots. He emphasized not using bad habits and to not do things we normally wouldn't do."

Hlinka echoed Wulf's sentiments.

"[Coach] emphasized that we play our game and make tape to tape passes," Hlinka said. "[Mandigo also instructed the team to] continue to do the little things and as a team, we collectively established goals for each game."

The Panthers look to remain in the top spot as they face Williams this weekend, Feb. 18-19.

EDITORS' PICKS

	Men's Basketball: Vegas set the line at -10.5 against Bates. Do the Panthers cover the spread?	Women's Hockey: Total goals allowed in the weekend series against Williams: +/- 2.5?	Ski Team: Does the Ski Team land in the top three at the Carnival this weekend?	NBA All-Star Game: Who's going to be the MVP?
WILL CASE (69-41, .627)	YES They've been on quite a streak.	UNDER They're one of the best teams in the country and Williams has been in a rut lately.	YES They finished ahead of UNH last weekend, look for them to do the same this time around.	RUSSELL WESTBROOK I want to see him win this as the precursor to league MVP.
EMILY BUSTARD (81-86, .485)	YES They're really good, right?	OVER Ehh ... The Panthers will score enough to handle them anyways.	YES Absolutely!	LEBRON JAMES That's my friend's favorite basketball player ... She's very good at basketball.
SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (8-5, .615)	NO I say Middlebury wins by seven.	UNDER Lin Han '20 and Julie Neuberger '18 are close to unstoppable.	YES Go Midd!	KYRIE "UNCLE DREW" IRVING Don't reach, youngblood.
ROBERT ERICKSON (4-0, 1.000)	YES Middlebury is hot. Bates is cold. Next question.	UNDER Pfft ...	NO They'll have some strong individual showings, but I don't think they crack the top three.	JAMES HARDEN Brings it home to Texas for me.

Men's Squash Falls in Semis, Fights to Get Third

By Will Case
Sports Editor

Two weekends ago, Feb. 4-5, the men's squash team headed south down the I-91 to Amherst, Mass., where they battled to a third-place finish at the NESCAC Championships for the second straight season. With the College Squash Association Men's Team Championships starting tomorrow, Feb. 17, in Cambridge, Mass., the Panthers look primed to win the third-tier "C" bracket – the Summers' Cup – for the sixth time in the last nine seasons.

The Panthers entered NESCACs as the four seed, lower than they had hoped they would be ranked at the beginning of the season, in part due to a key stretch when they were without their No. two Jacob Ellen '20.

In the first round, the Panthers pummeled fifth-seeded Colby 9-0, a team they defeated on Jan. 8 by a tally of 8-to-1 — this time around, the Panthers meant business.

"Against Colby we won all nine matches," said Ryan Swope '18. "We only dropped a single game. The team looked really sharp against them and everyone really got out there and took care of business."

As the Panthers have discovered over the last several years, seeding matters at NESCACs. Receiving a seed lower than three sets up a meeting with the vaunted Trinity program in the second round and unfortunately, the Panthers dropped all nine matches to a top-ranked Trinity. However, the Bantams went on to win their 11th-straight NESCAC title over Bates on Sunday, Feb. 5. For some perspective, there have only been 11 NESCAC season-ending tournaments – so there is no shame in a shutout at the hands of Trinity.

"Trinity was a lot of fun," said Swope who played in the ninth slot against the top-ranked Bantams. "Trinity is the best team in the country so we had nothing to lose going into that. I feel we used that match to get ready for Williams the next day."

In the third-place match on Sunday, the Panthers got their second shot at the Ephs, the team to whom they lost 5-4 on senior day last month on Jan. 20. However, that day the Panthers were without their No. two, Ellen.

This time, with their No. two back in the lineup, the Panthers came out ready to play. Middlebury owned the matches at the bottom of the ladder, something they desperately needed since they lost all of their matches in the first-through-fourth slots.

In the eighth spot, William Kurth '18 wrapped up another successful season for the Panthers with a win in straight sets, earning him a spot in the team championships and riding a four-match win streak as he was rested during the Trinity match Saturday afternoon.

Robert Rohrbach '19 also won in straight sets in the seventh spot, giving the Panthers their fourth win of the overall match and put them within one victory of taking the match and claiming third place. The clincher was Jack Kagan '20's victory over Williams' John Shuck, avenging an emotional loss that also decided the match when the teams met back on Jan. 20.

"Huge win from Kagan to seal the match again a kid he lost to last time around," said Swope.

Sam Giddins '18 has not often been quoted throughout the season. Yet the team values how he adds important depth, stays ready and prepares diligently with his teammates. After the win over Williams Giddins chimed in saying that the victory was extra sweet.

"The 5-4 win over Williams for third place was really nice after losing to them earlier in the season," said Giddins. "It was great to see Jack [Kagan] avenge his loss from last time against Shuck."

With the third place finish and no matches to improve their postseason resume last weekend, the Panthers will enter the C bracket at nationals in a quest to capture their sixth Summers' Cup. They will be the top seed entering play and have set themselves up to succeed at Harvard this weekend in Cambridge, Mass.

WOMEN'S SQUASH FINISHES FOURTH AT NESCAC TOURNEY

By Jake Turtel
Contributing Writer

On Feb. 4-5, just days after J-Term ended, the women's squash team travelled to Amherst College to compete in the NESCAC Championships. For the fifth time in Middlebury history and third consecutive year, Middlebury (who entered the weekend with an overall record of 8-7, but one of 5-1 in NESCAC play) was the three seed.

The Panthers cruised into the semifinal round, crushing the sixth seeded Tufts Jumbos in the quarterfinals 9-0. Many of the matches were short, with the Middlebury athletes winning 3-0 in eight of the nine competitions. Lucy Bostwick '18 was particularly dominant, losing only nine points the entire match. Bostwick beat Tufts sophomore Olivia Ladd-Luthringshau 11-2, 11-4, 11-3.

"It was a solid win and a great confidence booster for us, as we had been on a little bit of a losing streak heading into the weekend of matches," Caroline Jahrling '18 said. In a lopsided affair after dominating individual performances leading to a sweep of Tufts, Middlebury advanced to the semifinal round.

There, however, the story was not quite the same. Facing the Ephs, Middlebury expected a test. Williams was the second seed for the third straight year and went undefeated in NESCAC play, posting a record of 7-0. Williams had momentum on their side as they entered the match having won 11 of their last 13, while Middlebury had dropped five of their last six. Combined with the fact that Williams entered the 10th-ranked team in the country, the Panthers had their work cut out for them.

Mira Chugh '20 was the lone Panther to notch a win for the Panthers against the Ephs. She defeated senior Alyssa Ritchie in a match that went down to the wire, 3-11, 14-12, 5-11, 11-4 and 11-8 to achieve Middlebury's lone victory. Williams went on to lose to Trinity College in the Championship match, 9-0. It was a disappointing match for the Panthers, but the next day a podium match loomed.

On Sunday, Feb. 5, Middlebury faced the Bobcats of Bates for the second time this season – the Panthers had won the previous matchup on Jan. 7, 5-4. However, Bates was on a hot streak, also having won 11 of their last 13 matches entering the weekend (the same as Williams). The Bobcats proved momentum matters, flipping the script and defeating the Panthers 5-4.

Although Middlebury lost the match, it was certainly a close affair. Four individual matches went to five games, with eight of the 20 games going into tiebreaks.

Picking up victories for the Panthers were Beatrijs Kuijpers '19, captain Audrey Ellen '17, Jahrling and Natasha Lowitt '20. To lose such a close team match is tough, but Ellen says the team feels "confident about the matchup if we get another shot at Nationals in two weeks." With each Middlebury and Bates defeating the other 5-4 once this year, a rubber match would be a welcome opportunity.

In a weekend that did not go as planned, the Panthers have cause for positivity. Even after losses, the Middlebury team is determined to not let this defeat destroy them.

Ellen said that the team remained positive after a tough slate of matches over the weekend.

"Everyone spoke enthusiastically and positively about what we felt we needed to do, both in practice and on our own time, in order to step on the court at Nationals even stronger, both mentally and physically," Ellen said.

The Panthers return to action Friday, Feb 24, at the team championships in Princeton, N.J.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
Sebastian's Suggestions

1 **MEN'S BASKETBALL**
Pepin Gym will be bumping with energy to give our guys the support they need to beat Bates

2 **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**
Our girls will push past Colby to head on to the semifinals

3 **ALPINE AND NORDIC SKI**
Hosting Winter Carnival and skiing on our Snow Bowl is basically home court advantage — our teams will "sleigh"

4 **INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD**
The team has put itself in a great position to make some waves at the DIII New England Indoor Championships

5 **WOMEN'S HOCKEY**
Jessica Young '18 and Maddie Winslow '18 will lead Women's Hockey to sweep Williams

6 **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SQUASH**
The men's team will crush the competition in the Summer Cup Tournament and the women will dominate at the Team Championships in Princeton, NJ

7 **SWIMMING AND DIVING**
Women's team got fourth, Men's team looking to swim fast at NESCACs

8 **MEN'S HOCKEY**
Just two more games. I know you guys will come out on top

Tough Stretch for Women's Hoops

By Jordan Howell
Contributing Writer

Women's basketball has hit a bump in the road after a strong start to their season. Since the last report on the women's basketball team's win versus Castleton on Wednesday, Jan. 25, the team has had two wins versus Colby and Trinity as well as four losses against Hamilton, Keene State, Bowdoin and Amherst.

The first notable game was the Panthers' win over Colby on Friday, Feb. 3. This game served as a part of the Play4Kay Game in honor of Coach Kay Yow to raise funds for women's cancer research. In this game, Middlebury kept the tempo for a majority of the game. It was not until the fourth quarter where Colby was able to come back from a nine-point deficit to force overtime. In this overtime period, the Panthers were able to put the pressure on. They outscored Colby seventeen to two in order to win the game 64-49. The main standout performer in this game was Alex Huffman '19 who was able to score thirteen points and grab eleven rebounds. Sarah Kaufman '18 and Kira Waldman '20 were also big parts of the scoring effort, adding in fifteen and nine points respectively.

The second notable game was the Panthers' loss against Amherst on Friday, Feb. 10. This was not the best outing for the team this season. The ending score was 67-33. 33 points is the team's lowest scoring output of the season. After a close first quarter versus the undefeated Amherst, the second quarter was where the Panthers faltered. Middlebury allowed Amherst to score a total of 24 points while they only scored two points. The scoring in the third and fourth quarters were relatively close, but Middlebury couldn't overcome the deficit created in the second. Kira Waldman '20 was the leading scorer for the Panthers with seven points. Catherine Harrison '19 was able to contribute six points and seven rebounds. Also, Lily Kuntz '20 was able to add in six points.

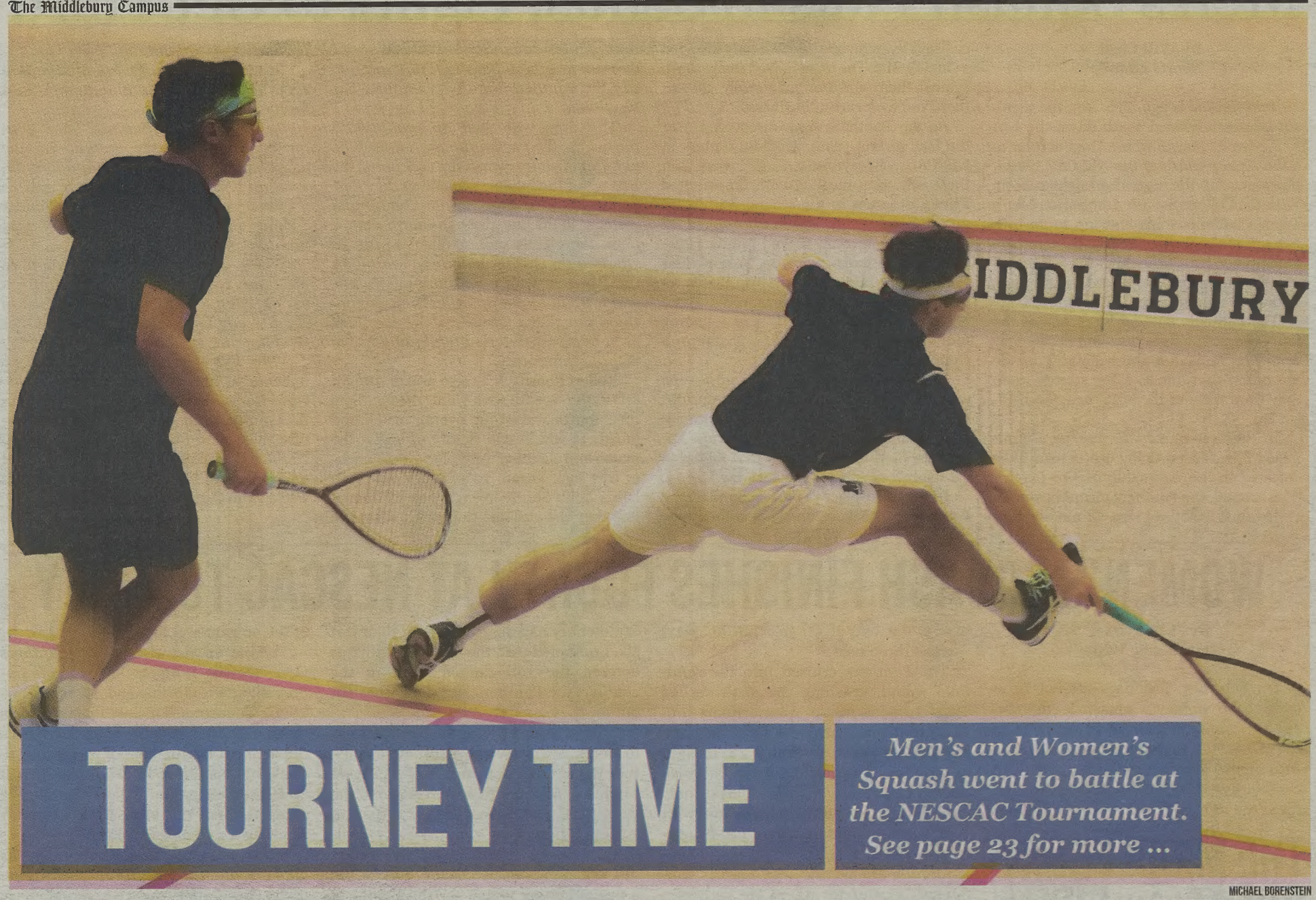
After this outing, the women's basketball team knew that they had to come out with passion for their next game. This led to their win versus Trinity 65 – 59 on Saturday, Feb. 11. The first quarter started out very evenly. Both teams were able to net 14 points each. However, the Panthers came back and owned the second quarter. They were able to go on an 11-2 run during this quarter, eventually leading to a Middlebury lead of 29-24 by halftime.

The third quarter turned out to be very similar to the second. The Panthers were able to outscore Trinity and were able to push their lead to double digits. Middlebury seemed determined to get a win here, fighting with all that they had. Heading into the fourth, the score was 47-37. During the fourth quarter, Trinity gave it all they had to attempt a comeback. At around three and a half minutes left in the quarter, they were able to tie the game at 55 points. Middlebury, however, was able to go on a 10-4 run at the end to knot up the game in their favor.

The player of the game would have to be Kaufman. She was able to put in a team-high seventeen points while shooting 60 percent from three point range. Four of these points came from the four free throws that she had to make to ice the game in the remaining 23 seconds. She also had a game-high six assists. Harrison and Betsy Knox '20 were also significant factors in this game. Harrison had a double-double consisting of 14 points and 14 rebounds. She also shot 50 percent from the field in this game. Knox had 15 points on 7-11 shooting (around 64 percent).

This was a good bounce back win for the Panthers. They showed their dominance in several areas. They had a field goal percentage of 42.6 in comparison to Trinity's 37.7. Middlebury also had 20 assists in comparison to only 13 by Trinity. The team was even able to force Trinity into 21 turnovers while keeping its own mark down to 15.

The Panthers look to clean up their play quickly with the postseason starting this Saturday, Feb. 18, against Colby.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

RECORDS FALL FOR INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

By Robert Erickson
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's and women's track and field teams concluded the last three-week stretch with some strong performances at two Boston-area meets this past weekend, breaking four school records at the David Hemery Valentine Invitational at Boston College and landing a number of top-five finishes at MIT's Gordon Kelly Invitational. Both meets were unscored and featured athletes from all three NCAA divisions as well as international running clubs.

The highlight of the weekend had to be the men's Distance Medley Relay race at Boston University on Friday. The Middlebury squad, comprised of Nathan Hill '20, Alex Nichols '17, James Mulliken '18 and Kevin Serrao '18, raced to the finish in 9:46.95 to set a new NCAA Division III record and smash the old mark (set by Amherst in 2015) by almost two seconds.

Like the rest of the squad, Head Coach Martin Beatty '84 was thrilled by the results.

"We are extremely proud of how all four came together to run as a relay team," Beatty said. "They were already a strong team, but all four may have run the best that each one has ever run, which resulted in a phenomenal race and a record setting time.

"This makes them very excited to do it again at the NCAA's—but first we have the DIII New England Championships," he cautioned, not wanting the athletes to get too far ahead of themselves.

Among the other record-setting performers was Jimmy Martinez '19, who knocked a few notches off the school's best marks in both the 200-meter (22.20) and the 400-meter (48.15) races. Additionally Serrao, who ran the 1600-meter leg of the DMR, lowered his old school record in the 800-meter with a time of 1:51.97.

Looking back, Serrao viewed the weekend as a sign of even more good things to come.

"This weekend was great," Serrao said. "We have a [first-year] phenom in Nathan Hill who split a faster leg in the DMR than I did last year, so we're looking to him in the future. Jimmy Martinez broke the school record in the 400 and has the 2nd fastest time in the country right now... The 800 record that I broke was actually mine, but James Mulliken would have broken it in his later heat by .01 seconds."

He went on to share his thoughts on why the DMR group has had such a strong season.

"I think we're likely running so well because of our focus on cross country that a lot of mid-distance guys neglect," he explained. "James [Mulliken] put in 70-mile weeks this summer and has split 49.20 and 1:52.00. It's not the typical way to succeed in the shorter sprint-like events, but it works for us."

For the women, Marisa Edmondson '20 ran a couple of strong races at MIT, placing second in the 200-meter dash (27.32) and sixth in the 60-meter sprint (8.39). Basia Osborne '19 had herself a memorable day as well: she finished second in the long jump (16'5.75") and fourth in the 600-meter race (1:44.63).

The weekend prior, multiple Panthers turned in strong performances at the Dartmouth Classic in Hanover, another unscored meet with teams from all three divisions. For the women, the 4x400 squad of Meg Wilson '20, Sophie Steinberg '20, Anna Willig '20 and Paige Fernandez '17 finished in 4:05.06, good for second place; individually, Willig finished second in the 800-meter race, putting up the nation's third-fastest time of the season (2:14.10).

On the men's side, the 4x400 relay of Nicholas Hendrix '20, Martinez, Mulliken and Nichols posted the fasted time of the season for DIII, stopping the clock at 3:18.67 to win the event by almost six seconds. Serrao placed second individually in the mile (4:15.13) and Jonathan Perlman '19 did the same in the

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THRILLING THIRD FOR SKIING

By Colby Morris
Senior Editor

Three successive carnivals of racing for the Middlebury alpine and nordic ski teams has built up to this weekend's carnival hosted by the Panthers at the Snow Bowl and the Rikert Nordic Center.

On Jan. 27 and 28, the Middlebury ski teams rallied to a fourth place finish at the University of New Hampshire's carnival at Cannon Mountain, following just behind Dartmouth, UVM and UNH. The Panthers improved on their fifth place finish during the first carnival at St. Lawrence after a strong showing on day two of St. Lawrence's carinval. Rob Cone '17 of the alpine team led the way in the slalom with a fourth place finish and an overall two run time of 1:47.31.

For the alpine women in slalom, Jackie Atkins '20 was the leading Panther for the second straight weekend with her 11th place finish in 2:03.55. In giant slalom, Atkins again led in 13th place, followed by Lexi Calgani '19 in 19th and Katy Greene '17 in 23rd places. Caroline Bartlett '19 followed her historic first weekend at St. Lawrence with a winning first run, but was unable to muster the same on the final GS run of the day.

For the nordic teams at the UNH carnival, Adam Luban '17 was the weekend's first finisher as his 26:58 time in the 10K classic gave him 11th place in the event. Day two for the nordic men's team at the Jackson Touring Center brought on the 20K freestyle race where Lewis Nottonson '19 got the top spot for Middlebury in 13th place with a time of 51:26. Luban continued his successful weekend with a 20th place finish, while Kate Feldman '18 had a strong weekend for the women, finishing in 33rd place in the 5K and 23rd in the 15K freestyle event.

While the rest of the student body left the frigid northeast to go on vacations the next weekend, our skiers travelled to UVM's carnival at the Trapp Family Lodge and Stowe, finishing sixth place at the end of the races. Bartlett didn't seem to mind missing out on traveling as she continued her fast skiing with a win in the giant slalom on day one.

Her 2:21.62 combined split of both runs beat the next finisher by .76 seconds — a country mile in the sport of ski racing. Bartlett, the sophomore captain, led the way on day two as well in slalom with a 13th place finish, followed by teammate Greene in 19th place. For the men in Stowe, Devon Cardamone '18 had a career day with a second place finish in GS, just .08 seconds off of the lead time. Cardamone's great finish bodes well for the Panthers, giving them another weapon heading into the final few carnivals.

"I had some trouble with consistency earlier on in the season, so it was awesome to finally put down two clean runs and end up with a personal best," Cardamone said af-

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INSIDE SPORTS

MEN'S HOCKEY SNAGS TWO MORE WINS
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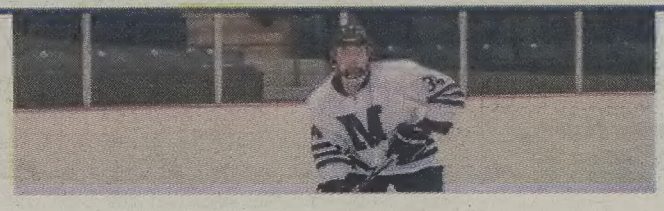

SPECIAL FEATURE: WOMEN'S HOCKEY COACH MANDIGO SETS THE BAR HIGH
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